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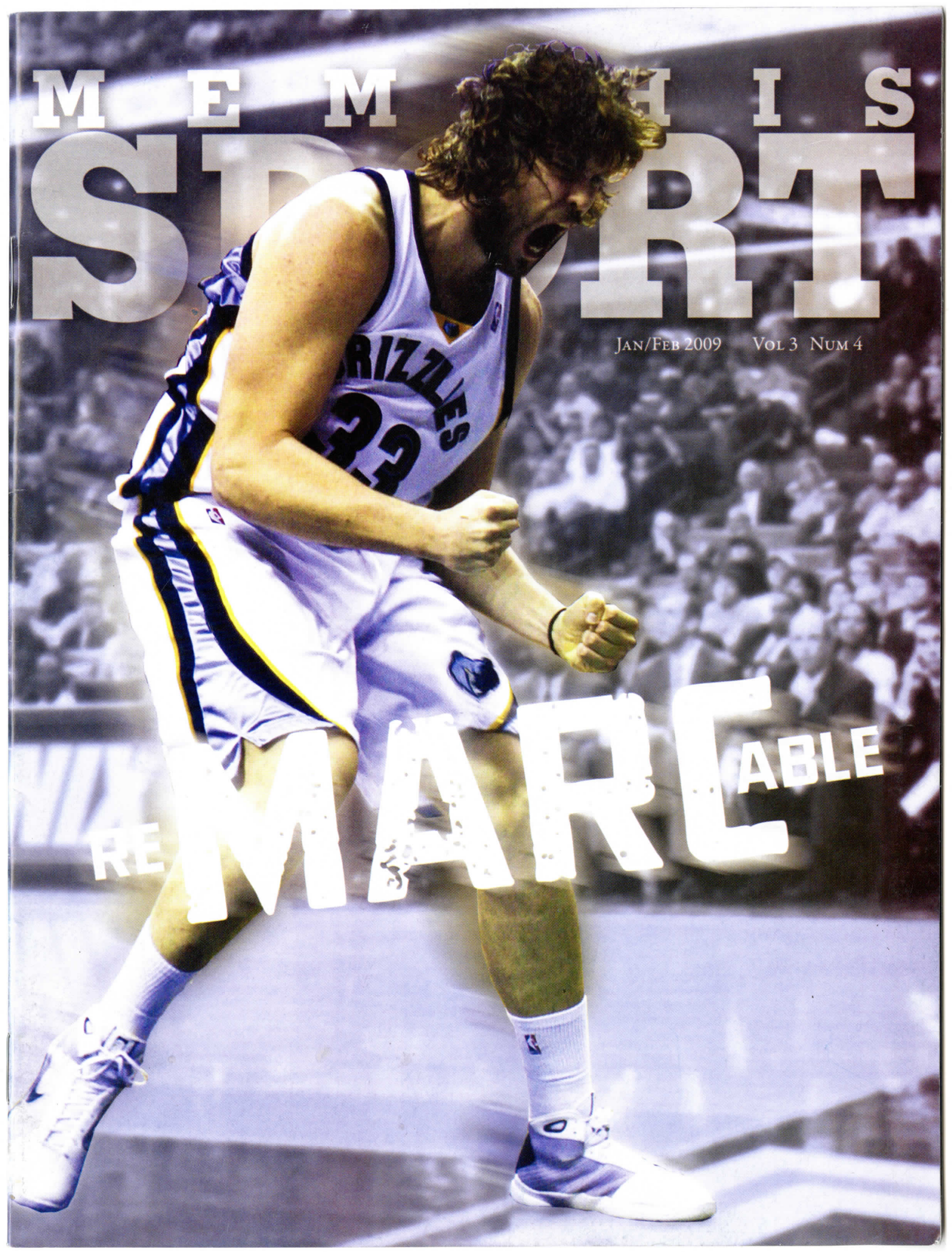
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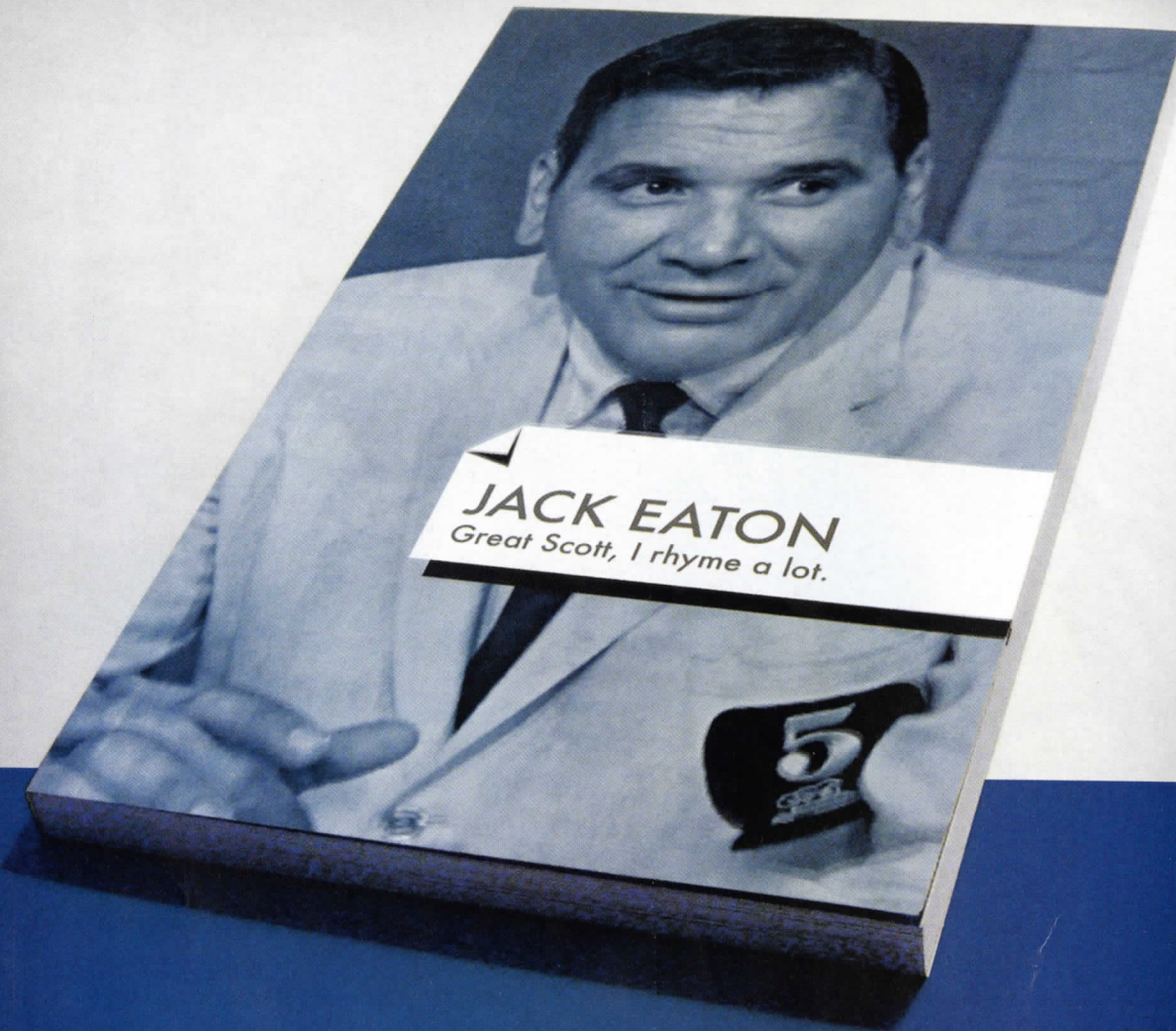
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MEMPHIS SPORT

JAN/FEB 2009 VOL 3 NUM 4

REMARKABLE





More than 100 poems from the legendary Jack Eaton,
the Bard of Union Avenue and the former Voice of the Tigers.

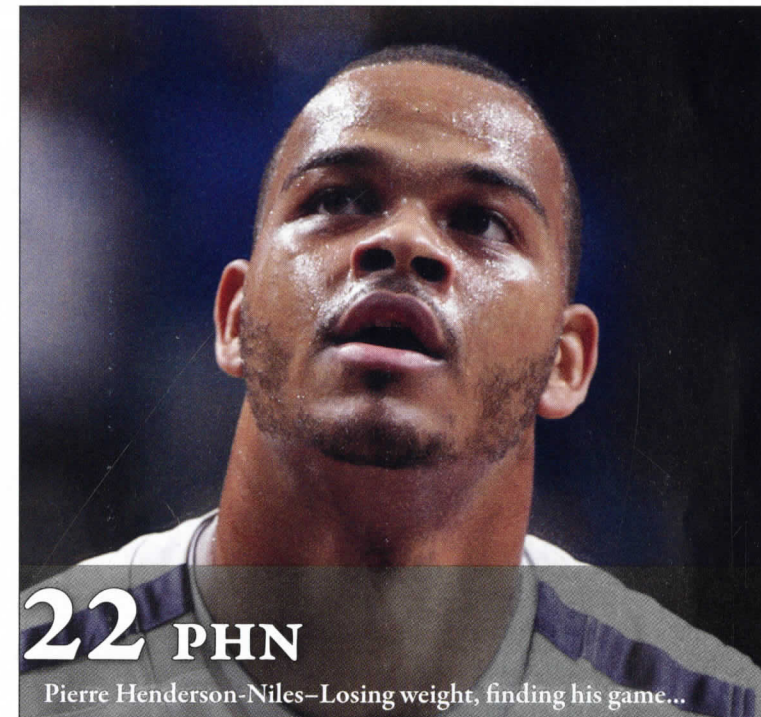
JACK EATON

Great Scott! I Rhyme a lot.

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JAN/FEB 2009 VOL 3 NUM 4



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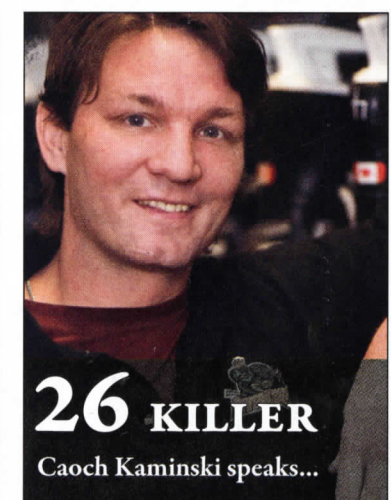
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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The obligatory rant.

COLD, HARD FACTS

It is January again... and that means it is time for my annual cold, hard facts. Last year these were known as predictions, but since I always seem to be right, we will now call them cold, hard facts. That's right. I predicted that Derrick Rose would be a Bull. I predicted (a year too early) Phillip Fulmer's demise. I predicted that Vince Young would watch Kerry Collins from the bench. I predicted that Pau would be traded away for a boatload of cash. I predicted that the winner of the Southern Heritage Classic would be the halftime show. The proof is in the pudding, as they say. Now, let's get to the latest batch.

Tiger Basketball. The Tiger basketball team will fall out of the AP Top 25 at some point this season.

However, they will again go through conference play without a loss, but will lose in the conference tournament.

In the NCAA Tournament, the Tigers will make it to the Elite Eight before losing to North Carolina.

No Tiger player will be drafted in the first round of the NBA draft this year.

Tyreke Evans will stay one more year.

Tiger Football. Memphis will not lose to Ole Miss to start the 2009 football season.

The Tigers will be a much improved team and will win the East Division of C-USA but will lose in the C-USA title game.

The Tigers will not lose to Ohio State, Southern Cal, Texas, Oklahoma, Alabama or LSU.

The schedule will remain near the bottom of the country in schedule strength, ensuring another bowl season.

Memphis will again visit New Orleans in the post-season for the newly renamed Bendaroos New Orleans Bowl (thanks to the bad economy).

Grizzlies. Mike Conley will be traded away, probably for a deal that includes Stromile Swift.

The Grizz will finish the 2008-09 season with 33 wins and will once again be in the lottery.

The Grizz will finally luck out and get the number one pick in the draft. They will select Hasheem Thabeet from UCONN.

Odds and Ends. Derrick Rose will become the NBA Rookie of the Year. No one will mention Memphis.

Houston Nutt will not win eight games in his second season as head coach.

Memphis Sport will surpass Sports Illustrated and ESPN, The Magazine as the sports publication of choice among Mid-Southerners.

— Mike Bullard, publisher

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A Bull in a China Shop
abullinachinashop.com

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MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES UPCOMING GAMEPLAN

JANUARY							FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					2 SAS 7:00pm	3	1	2 WAS 6:00pm	3	4 HOU 7:00pm	5	6 LAC 7:00pm	7 TOR 7:00pm
4 DAL 5:00pm	5	6 MIN 7:00pm	7 NJN 6:50pm	8	9 TOR 6:00pm	10	8	9 NOH 6:00pm	10	11 PHI 7:00pm	12	13 ALL-STAR WEEKEND	14
11	12	13 CLE 7:00pm	14	15	16 UTA 7:00pm	17	15	16	17 UTA 8:00pm	18 POR 9:00pm	19	20 SAC 7:00pm	21
18	19 DET 4:30pm	20	21 CHA 6:00pm	22	23 NYK 6:30pm	24 NJN 7:00pm	22	23	24 CLE 6:00pm	25 IND 6:00pm	26	27	28 OKC 7:00pm
25	26	27 DEN 7:00pm	28 OKC 7:00pm	29	30	31 LAL 7:00pm							

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NOTHIN' BUT NET

Highlights from the regular features at www.memphisport.net.



REBEL YELL

– From "Houston Nutt – Coach of the Year" posted by Steve O'Dell:

"In 2007, the Rebels were 3-9 and to most fans had no chance of winning any game... Now, let's jump to 2008, there are more than a few people who believe Ole Miss can beat LSU (me included). The Rebels had a chance to beat Wake Forest, Alabama, South Carolina, and Vanderbilt (all ranked teams at one time this year). Now what is different? Coach Houston Nutt. He instills confidence, not only in his players but the fans. What Coach has made a bigger or better impact on the SEC this year than Coach Nutt?"



RIVERKINGS THINGS

– From "I Hate Mondays," posted by Joe Sports:

"Friday and Saturday night could be considered a statement by the Mississippi RiverKings (14 - 9 - 0). They not only spanked the Brahmas 7-2 on Friday night, but they battled hard on Saturday night, winning 4-3 in a shootout vs. Texas. Newcomer Dallas Steward is ridiculously fast! Unless the Brahmas are particularly slow."

Read the latest news and views, join the MemFan social network, purchase Jack Eaton's new book of poems, listen to Memphis Sport Radio, browse issue archives, and much more at memphisport.net.



JACK'S RHYMES

– The poem "Georgetown 79, Memphis 70 (OT)" by Jack Eaton:

I had a bad feeling right off the bat
Things just didn't seem right and that was that.

Every time the Tigers started to growl
I'm a son of a gun the ref called a foul.

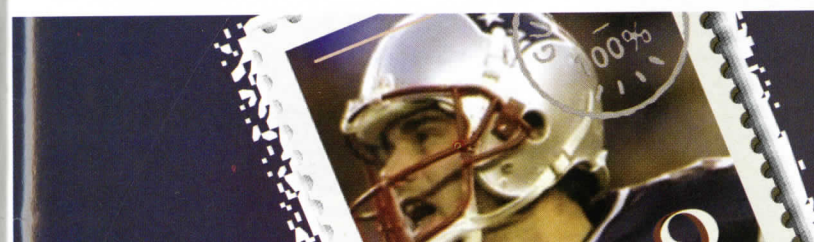
The Hoyas shot 36 free throws and that's a lot
Exactly 16 more than the Tigers shot.

So all things considered I thought we did just fine
The difference was clearly at the free throw line.

It was deja vu for me and here's my call
It reminded me of the bad old days at Freedom Hall.

So don't ask me about the game, all I'll say
We were robbed, it was a horrible day.

So shake it off Tigers and just for me
Take out your frustrations against Tennessee.



CHATTER

Real letters (or emails) from real people.

PRO BOWLERS!



I couldn't be more ecstatic about Stephen Gostkowski being the first Tiger ever going to the Pro Bowl this year, but how could have the NFL overlooked the other Memphis Tiger in the NFL – DeAngelo Williams? – Jamie R.

PUBLISHER: Jamie, we are exited about the prospect of seeing one of our favorite Tiger players on the field in Honolulu as well. And DeAngelo did have a great year, but Adrian Peterson, Clinton Portis and Michael Turner all had more yards than D-Will, so I hate to say it, but I agree with how the voting turned out. But keep in mind that

D-Will and Gostkowski aren't the only two Tigers in the NFL season. Don't forget about Mike McKenzie from the Saints, Brandon McDonald from the Browns, Tony Brown from our very own Titans and Isaac Bruce who moved to the 49ers this season, among others. Isaac Bruce, incidentally, made the Pro Bowl four times in his career, the last being the 2002 season.

TIGER MALAISE...

I really wanted to get behind the Tiger football team this year, but it is really hard when they start out with three losses. It seems like they always start out poorly. – Mark M.

PUBLISHER: It's true that is hard to get fired up for a team that is 0-3, and from 2005-2007 the Tigers first three games all amounted to 1-2 starts, but if you go back to 2004, under Tommy West, the Tigers beat

Ole Miss, UT-Chattanooga, and Arkansas State to amass a 3-0 record to start the season. We want to see a revolution in Tiger football as well, so take a look at page

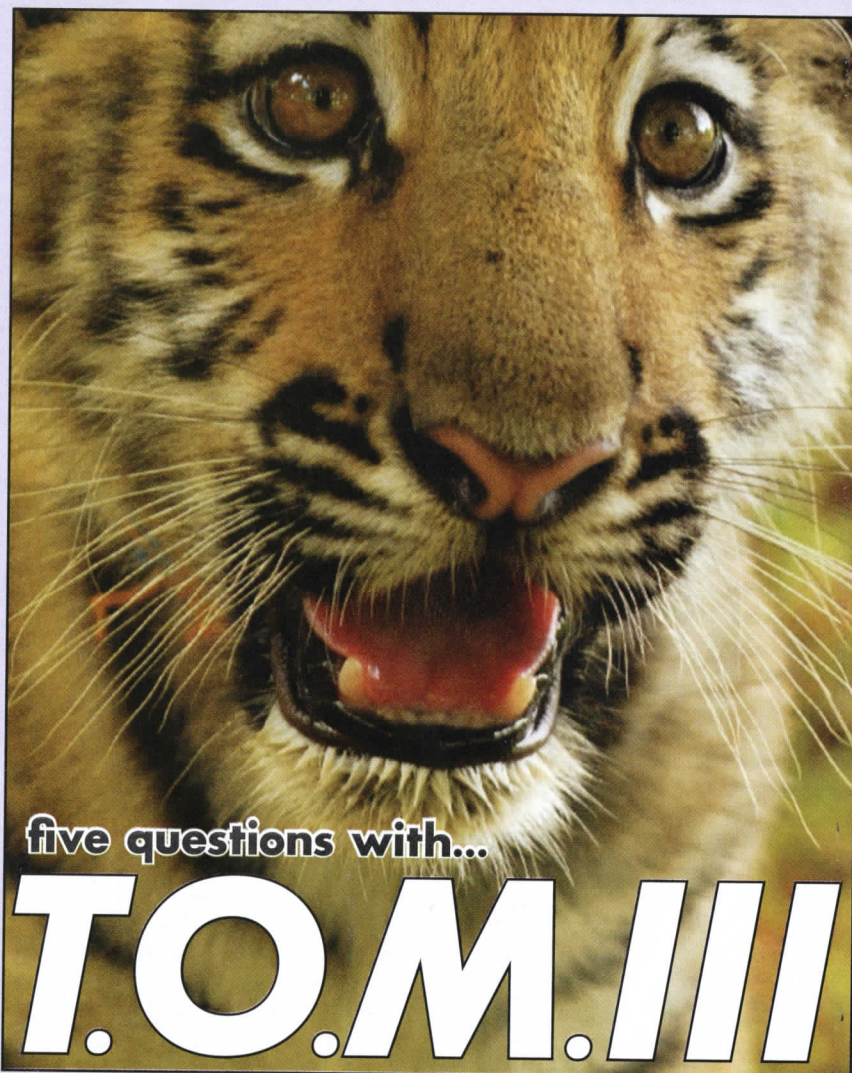
22 as we try to find the things that will fix Tiger football.

What do you think? Do you love Memphis Sport or hate it? Send me an email at mike@memphisport.net and let me know what is on your mind.



STARTING FIVE

Five lists of five.



five questions with... **T.O.M.III**

1 You have some big shoes to fill. Is there anything you will do differently than your predecessor?
Man, I will bring it like a bengal is supposed to bring it. Y'know, I wasn't around to witness the first or second T.O.M., but I can assure you I intend to bring this Memphis mascot position to a new level of wild.

2 How are you enjoying the Memphis food so far? Have you found any good restaurants? I hit up Folk's Folly for a bite. Nothing like a good rare steak. I saw a bear across town, and boy did it look like a good meal.

3 What are the odds of getting a couple of your friends to make the

trip up to Knoxville for the big game?
Hey, anything is possible. I would love to get a streak going to the big game, but it's not really up to me. I'm not old enough to drive yet.

4 Have you marked your territory anywhere in town yet? I went to FedExForum and sprayed all over it, inside and out. I plan to visit the Liberty Bowl next.

5 What has Coach Cal been teaching you in your first few weeks in Memphis? What hasn't he taught me – how to roar properly. I have really improved my jump in a short amount of time. But Coach Cal is more than a coach or teacher. He's a father figure. I'm just a smarter cat now.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



The Tiger Basketball Team

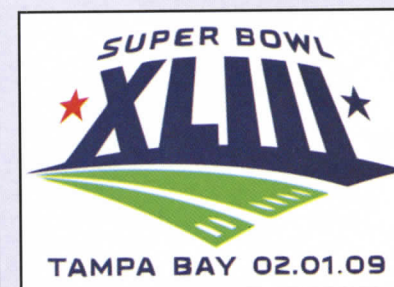
1. Practice free throws.
2. Find a point guard.
3. Pick one away uniform and one home uniform.
4. Prove to the entire country, once again, that they are better than their December play represents.
5. Give Coach Cal anything he wants.



The Grizzlies

1. Get the top draft pick.
2. Win games.
3. Clear out a spot for a Rookie of the Year trophy.
4. Become consistent (on offense, defense - anywhere).
5. Do whatever it takes to get Hasheem Thabeet (without losing Gay or Mayo).

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



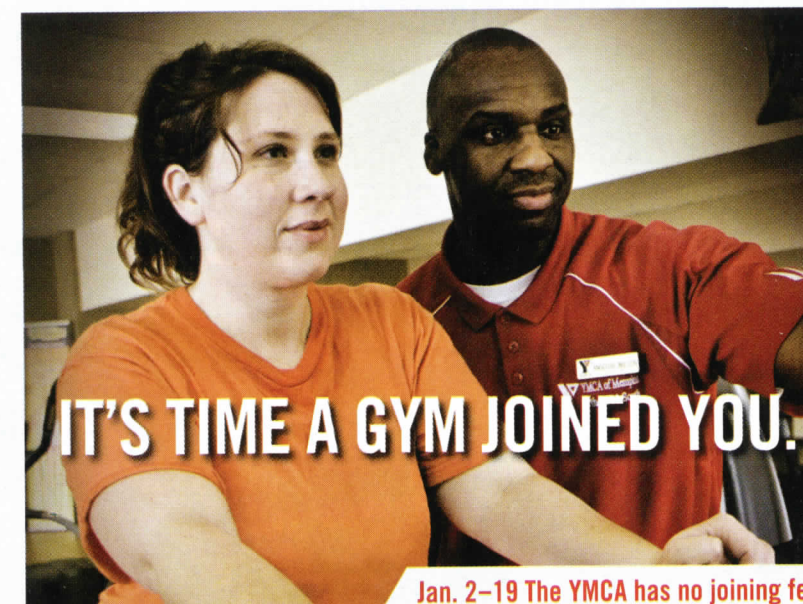
The Titans

1. Bring back a much improved Vince Young.
2. Pay Albert Haynesworth.
3. Visit Memphis more often.
4. Feed the offensive line twelve times a day.
5. Win the Super Bowl.



Memphis Area Sports Fans

1. Put down the hot dogs. Put down the funnel cakes.
2. Stand up the whole game.
3. Call into sports talk shows only when you have something intelligent to say.
4. Get to the game early - stay until the clock reaches 00:00.
5. Go to more games.



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Grizzlies' Marc Gasol:
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BRING IT ON

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April

MEMPHIS GOLDEN GIRL

HOW DID YOU START TWIRLING?

Back in second grade, I watched a little girl do it in a talent show. After that, everyone signed up. It was the cool thing to do. Even boys wanted to sign up. I was one of the only ones who stuck with it.

WHAT EVENTS DO YOU TWIRL AT?

Football games, fan fest, and occasional basketball games. Once there was a 5K that they made me stand at in my suit.

HOW COLD ARE YOU OUT THERE DURING FOOTBALL GAMES?

Freezing. It is really cold.

CAN YOU TWIRL FIRE?

Yes. But we can't do it at games anymore because it is a fire hazard with field turf.

DO YOU TWIRL YOUR SPAGHETTI OR CUT IT?

Twirl it.

IF YOU WERE ONE OF TV'S GOLDEN GIRLS, WHICH WOULD YOU BE?

I don't know.

IS THE GOLDEN GIRLS THEME SONG YOUR RING TONE?

No. Though my mom would always sing it to me growing up.

WOULD YOU RATHER WIN A GOLD METAL OR A GOLDEN GLOBE?

Gold metal.

GOLDFISH OR GOLDEN RETRIEVERS?

I have a golden retriever named Chip.

HOW MANY BATONS DO YOU OWN?

by KEVIN CERRITO
photo by MIKE WALTERS

It is like shoes. I don't know how many I have.

WHAT IS THE WORST INJURY YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE HAS ENCOUNTERED FROM YOUR BATON?

Black eye. One of my teammates broke her nose, but it wasn't from my baton. Nose injuries are common.

WHICH SIDE OF THE TIGER DEN DO YOU SIT ON?

I switch. I am a Tiger Den hopper.

IF YOU COULD TWIRL ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD WHERE WOULD IT BE?

I like Japan. We went to Osaka for the world championship. I would love to go back.

FAVORITE JAM TO TWIRL TO?

The U of M fight song.

FAVORITE TYPE OF TWIRL?

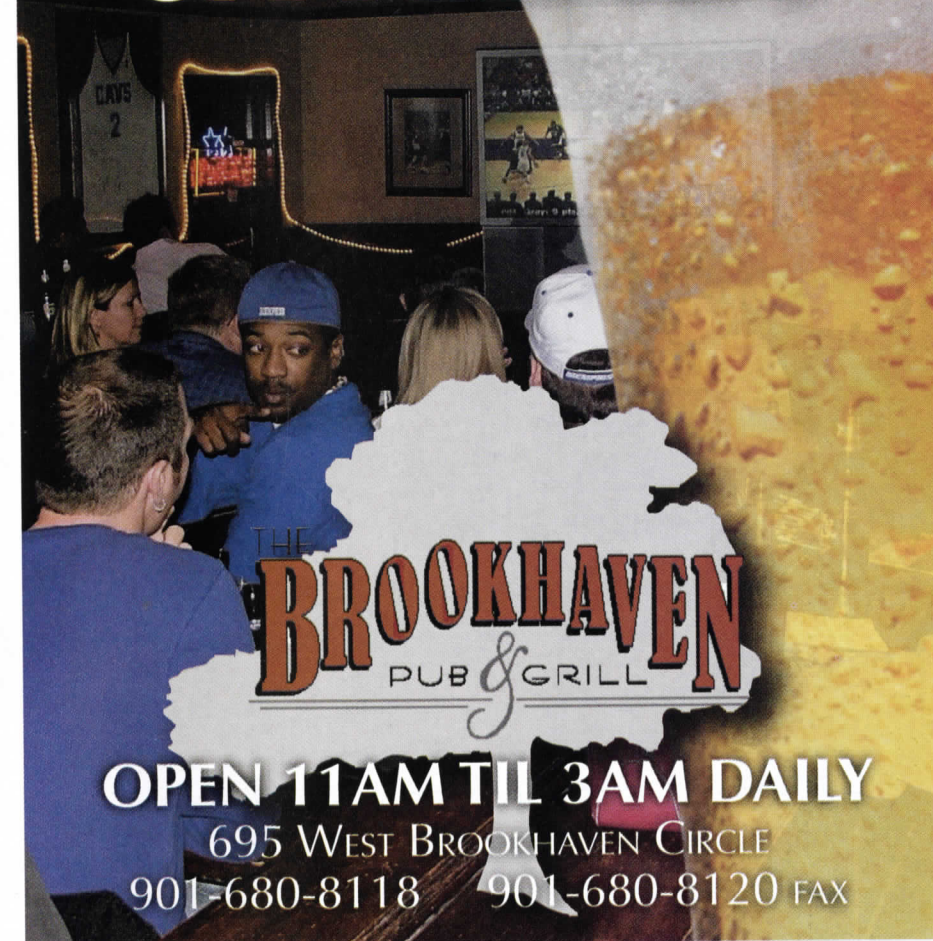
The finger twirl. It goes really fast through all your fingers.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO WHEN YOU ARE NOT TWIRLING?

I teach twirling. I study. I shop.

M

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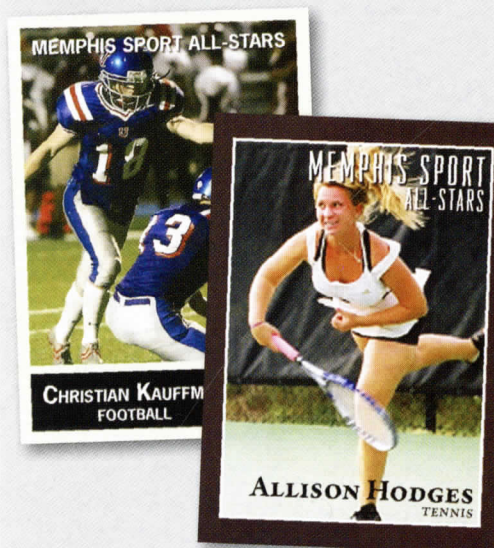
M **JOSH BYNUM**, a three-year starter for Millington Central High, played on both the offensive and defensive lines. Listed at 6' 2" and 315 pounds, Josh is an imposing matchup on either side of the ball. He helped lead his Trojan football team to a Class 5A, Region 7 title and another appearance in the playoffs. Josh was also selected to play in the seventh annual AutoZone Liberty Bowl High School All-Star Game at Memphis University School, which honored 80 local senior football players.

M **SARAH HERVEY** excels in both golf and tennis at St. Benedict at Auburndale. She has been named MVP of both teams a total of four times, twice in each sport, and was also named Rookie of the Year in tennis as a freshman. Sarah also shines in the classroom as well, being selected to both the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society. She plans to study business at Xavier, Mississippi State or Alabama.

ALL-STARs

The very best of prep athletics.

M To say that **ALLISON HODGES** dominated the tennis court this year for her Houston Mustangs squad would be an understatement. She is ranked second in the state and a four star recruit by Tennis-Recruiting.net. Allison won the Tennessee Class AAA Championship and was named The Commercial Appeal's 2007-2008 Pepsi Best of the Preps Girls Tennis Player of the Year. Allison has signed on to play for the University of Central Florida Knights beginning next year.



M Kicking footballs, excelling in the classroom and being highly involved in church activities and charities are all a huge part of **CHRISTIAN KAUFFMAN**'s life. On the football field, he helped his MUS squad to an undefeated season and state championship. Only a junior, Christian was the second leading scorer for the Owls and was perfect on field goal attempts under 45 yards. Christian has earned a 4.0 GPA in the classroom, is a youth leader at Second Presbyterian Church and is working at a hospital in Jordan over the Christmas holiday.

If you are in high school athletics and have an achievement worth noting or know someone who does, email your accomplishments along with a photo to allstars@memphissport.net, and you just may see your face here in an upcoming issue.

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SUN 8TH VS ROCKY MTN
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TUE 10TH VS ROCKY MTN
Locks of Love Night

FRI 20TH VS WICHITA
Pink At The Rink Night- Pink Ice & Jersey Auction

SAT 21ST VS WICHITA

SAT 28TH VS COLORADO

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TEAM WORK

Area sports teams playing at a high level.

CHAMPIONSHIP IDENTITY

by JAN MICHAEL HARTELUST photo by HOLLAND STUDIO

His team won an impressive 31 games last season compared to only 3 losses. It finished the season with a perfect 16-0 mark in its division en route to a championship. And it featured one of the premiere guards in the country. If you immediately thought of John Calipari you're forgiven. No, the Lausanne Lady Lynx, lead by super talent Lauren Avant, are searching for something the Tigers haven't found just yet – back to back championships. But head coach Wayne Kelley knows the task will be even more challenging than last season.

"At the beginning of the year, I wasn't sure how this team would react," Kelley says. "I had to remind them that this is a different team."

Indeed it is. The Lady Lynx lost three senior starters from last season's Division 2-A state champion team and Kelley didn't know what to expect out of his team. When there is so much experience gone from a championship roster, a coach's work becomes that much more difficult when expectations meet inexperience.

"Last year I was able to run different plays because of experience," Kelley says. "This group of kids is different so we have to do different things."

The three senior starters are gone, but luckily for Kelley, he still has the immensely talented junior guard Lauren Avant to lead his team. Avant, who

"THESE KIDS WANT TO WIN THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AGAIN."

verbally committed to play for Pat Summit and the Lady Vols when she was in eighth grade, averaged 15 points, six rebounds, five assists and three steals last season. Kelley knows how much it helps his relatively inexperienced team to have a player of Avant's caliber lead his team.

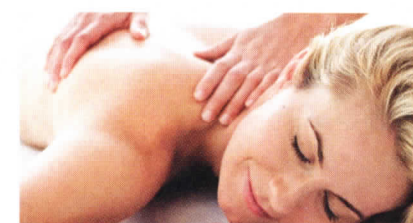
"She really works hard to make her teammates better," Kelley says. "It would be different if this one player was selfish, but she is unselfish and I didn't have to coach her to be unselfish. All the other players benefit from her being unselfish."

That unselfishness, combined with Kelley's coaching, has proven successful so far this season as Lausanne is off to a quick 8-0 start. Motivating a team after a championship season is never easy, but Kelley sees that his girls don't have any problem in that department.

"These kids want to win the state championship again," Kelley says. "They know that if you put your guard down somebody's going to beat you. They're starting to find their own identity."

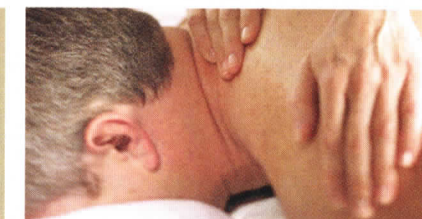
It's an identity that may lead to another state championship for Coach Kelley and his developing Lady Lynx squad.

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RE MARC CABLE

by ANDRE JOHNSON photos by SEAN DAVIS

Marc Gasol walks into the athletic facility of his old stomping ground known as Lausanne Collegiate School and is immediately flanked by an assembled media and autograph seekers.

Decked out in blue jeans and sneakers, a sweater, and a scarf draped around his neck, the Memphis Grizzlies rookie center's attire wasn't particularly fashionable for a guest of honor whose former high school was holding a special ceremony to retire the former Tennessee Mr. Basketball's No. 33 jersey.

But no one, it appeared, was paying much attention to Gasol's dress-down attire. With television cameras aimed toward him and a nearby table featuring several miniature kegs of beer, and a couple of bottles of wine and champagne, it seemed the only thing that mattered to reporters and a host of well-wishers on this night was

paying homage to one of the most flourishing young European players to embark on the National Basketball Association scene in recent years. The usually soft-spoken Gasol, it seems, is just as thrilled to be in the midst of what he described as an unforgettable, yet unlikely, occasion.

But can you really blame the youngster?

Eight years ago, when he came to the United States and enrolled at Lausanne as a junior, he was a slightly overweight private school player who spoke very little

Eight years ago, when he came to the United States and enrolled at Lausanne as a junior, he was a slightly overweight private school player who spoke very little English, and whose skills were in need of a serious makeover.

English, and whose skills were in need of a serious makeover. To many, in fact, he was among the area's most popular players simply because he was the little brother of then-Grizzlies star and current Los Angeles Lakers power forward Pau Gasol. And never mind that he led Lausanne to the Division 2 state title game his senior campaign. But times have changed, and so has the younger Gasol's outlook on the game.

"When I was here, I was playing basketball just to have fun," Marc Gasol says of his days at Lausanne.

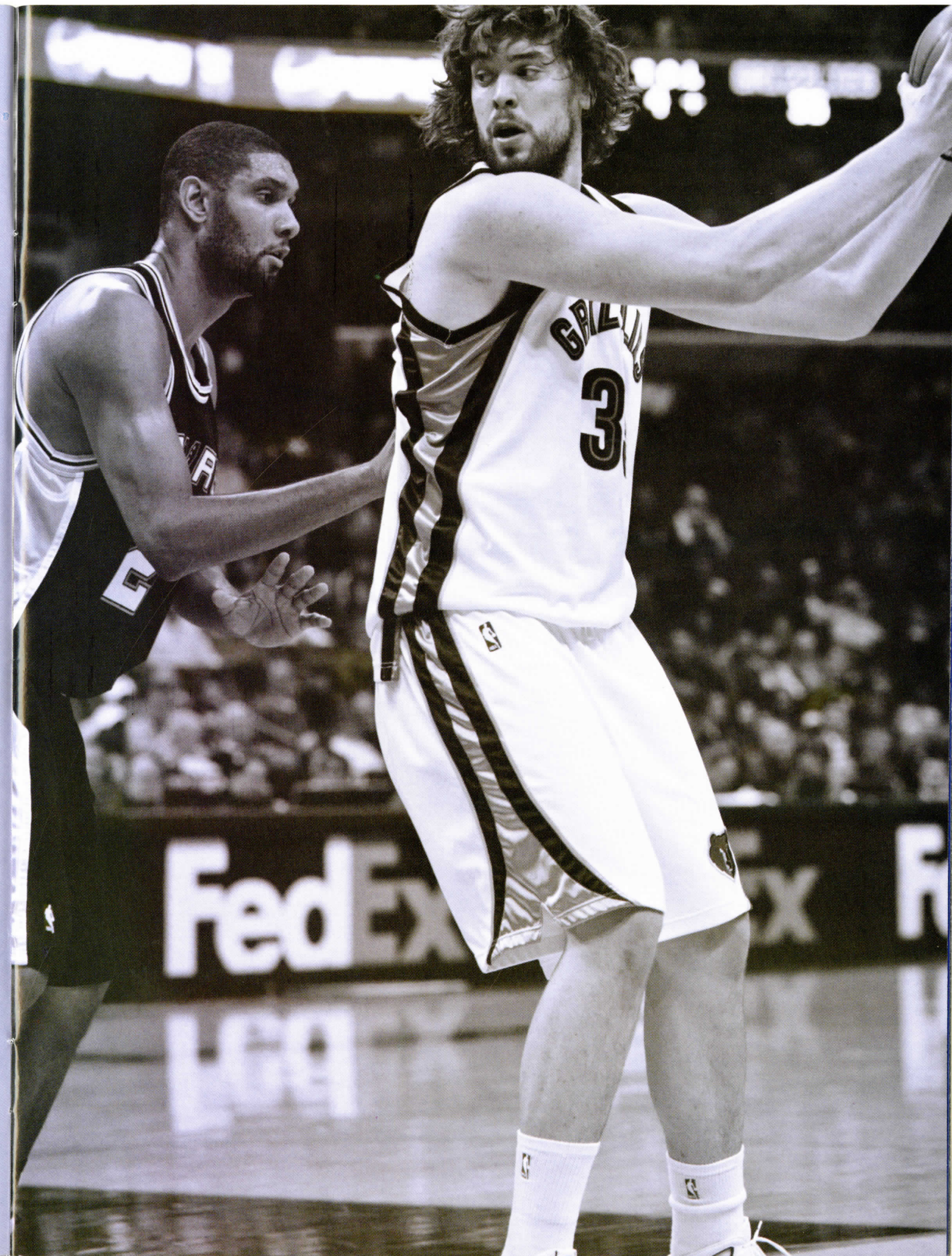
Today, however, he is a rising first-year pro with a promising career, although he knows full well he has a long way to go before people start drawing comparisons to big bro, a former NBA Rookie of the Year, now in his eighth year in the league. Nevertheless, if the past half decade is an indication of what the future holds for the

younger Gasol, perhaps the disappointing Grizzlies could find themselves resurfacing as a hot ticket in this hoops-crazy town.

One reason is that Gasol has demonstrated time and again that he has the competitive drive to perform with the world's finest ballers. How could anyone forget the mark left by him as a member of Spain's ACB League, when his five-year stint was culminated with him being dubbed the league's Most Valuable Player? How could anyone dismiss the valiant contributions he produced as a member the Spanish National Team that captured the Gold Medal in FIBA World Championships in 2006, or the 2007 squad that settled for silver in the FIBA European Championships?

Not only that, how could anyone forget how Gasol and that resilient Spanish National Team gave Team USA's so-called Redeem Team all it could handle before walking away with the silver medals in last year's Summer Olympics in Beijing, China?

Apparently, NBA GMs recall all too well.



Following stints with Winterthur FC Barcelona from 2004 to 2006, and Akasvayu Girona from 2006 to 2008, Gasol, who turns 24 in January, felt it was time he display his newfound confidence on the NBA stage.

The only problem?

Pau repeatedly said publicly that he desperately wanted out of the NBA's doormat organization known as the Grizzlies, meaning there was a slim chance the family duo

would be teammates in the States. Marc, consequently, was taken by the Lakers in the second round with the 48th pick in the '07 draft. However, his tenure with the eventual NBA Finals runners-up lasted roughly eight months. Ironically, the Lakers traded his draft rights to the Grizzlies as part of a package that involved big bro who, as a result, was sent packing to L.A. Four months and three weeks later, the deal finally became official as the younger Gasol inked his contract with the Grizzlies.

So far, so good for Gasol who, as the midway point of the season approaches, has generated compelling averages of 12.2 points and 7.1 rebounds per game. That, according to ESPN hoops analyst David Thorpe, is seventh best among NBA rookies.

"In the beginning, it was tough," Gasol says of making the transition from international competition to the NBA. "I

wasn't used to it, especially practicing twice a day. But I had no choice but to give it 100 percent."

Just like that recent ceremony at his old high school, it seems Gasol is just ecstatic being in the midst of what may eventually end up being an unforgettable career in the NBA. As for how long he expects his latest professional tenure to last?

Don't even bother bringing the subject up.

"I just got my jersey retired," he says chuckling. "Right now, I'm thinking about the present."

Seems this rookie phenom even knows what to say and when to say it. But can you really blame the youngster? **M**



RE MARC

PAU FULL

#33	#16
Position: C	Position: F/C
Height: 7-1	Height: 7-0
Weight: 280	Weight: 260
DOB: 1.29.85	DOB: 7.6.80
Birthplace: Barcelona, Spain	Birthplace: Barcelona, Spain
Years in NBA: 1st	Years in NBA: 8th
Drafted: 48th overall by LA Lakers in 2007	Drafted: 3rd overall by Atlanta in 2001
ACB League MVP: 2008	ACB League MVP: 2001
Beard: Yes	Beard: Yes
Songs bout him: None	Songs bout him: "No Me Gusta Pau" by Chris Vernon
Good friends with: Jerry West's son, Jonnie West	Good friends with: Juan Carlos Navarro

FIRST AID FOR THE TIGERS

Tiger football has seen a dramatic increase in winning seasons and bowl appearances in recent years, but a sharp decline in attendance. Our local football program needs first aid. The use of this list can provide relief to our struggling Tigers. Use in case of emergency.



Game Day Events

Games, food, fun, tailgating... You shouldn't be able to get near the stadium without being overwhelmed. The First Tennessee Tiger Town was a good addition, but it's just a start.



A Tougher Schedule

This season the Tigers strength of schedule ranked 114 out of 119 teams and last season it was dead last. That just won't cut it. It may help us get to a bowl game, but it doesn't help the perception that this team is creating weak schedules to guarantee winning seasons.



The Highland Thousand

The Highland Hundred was created in 1958 and has never reached its' full potential. Though it has well over a hundred members, this booster organization should have passed the thousand member milestone ages ago. With over a hundred players every four years or so. Just the players and families alone should hit a thousand members.



On Campus Stadium

One way to build members is to force the alumni to see all the wonderful changes to the campus in recent years. What better way to do that than to invite them to the campus each Saturday for a game of football.



A Conference Title

Conference USA is consistently ranked one of the worst conferences in the country. Memphis should make it a priority to dominate this weak conference. If we can't consistently beat these inferior teams than maybe we should rethink football altogether.



A Quarterback

In terms of ticket sales, a record-setting quarterback could provide some short-term relief. The program needs a face an nothing provides that better than the man who touches the ball with each offensive snap. The fans want excitement and this is the quickest way to give it to them.



More Corporate Support

Selling tickets is the name of the game. Getting local and regional corporate support is crucial to getting seats filled. Kroger, FedEx, First Tennessee, International Paper and more companies like these have what it takes to keep us in the game (off the field).



State-of-the-Art Facilities

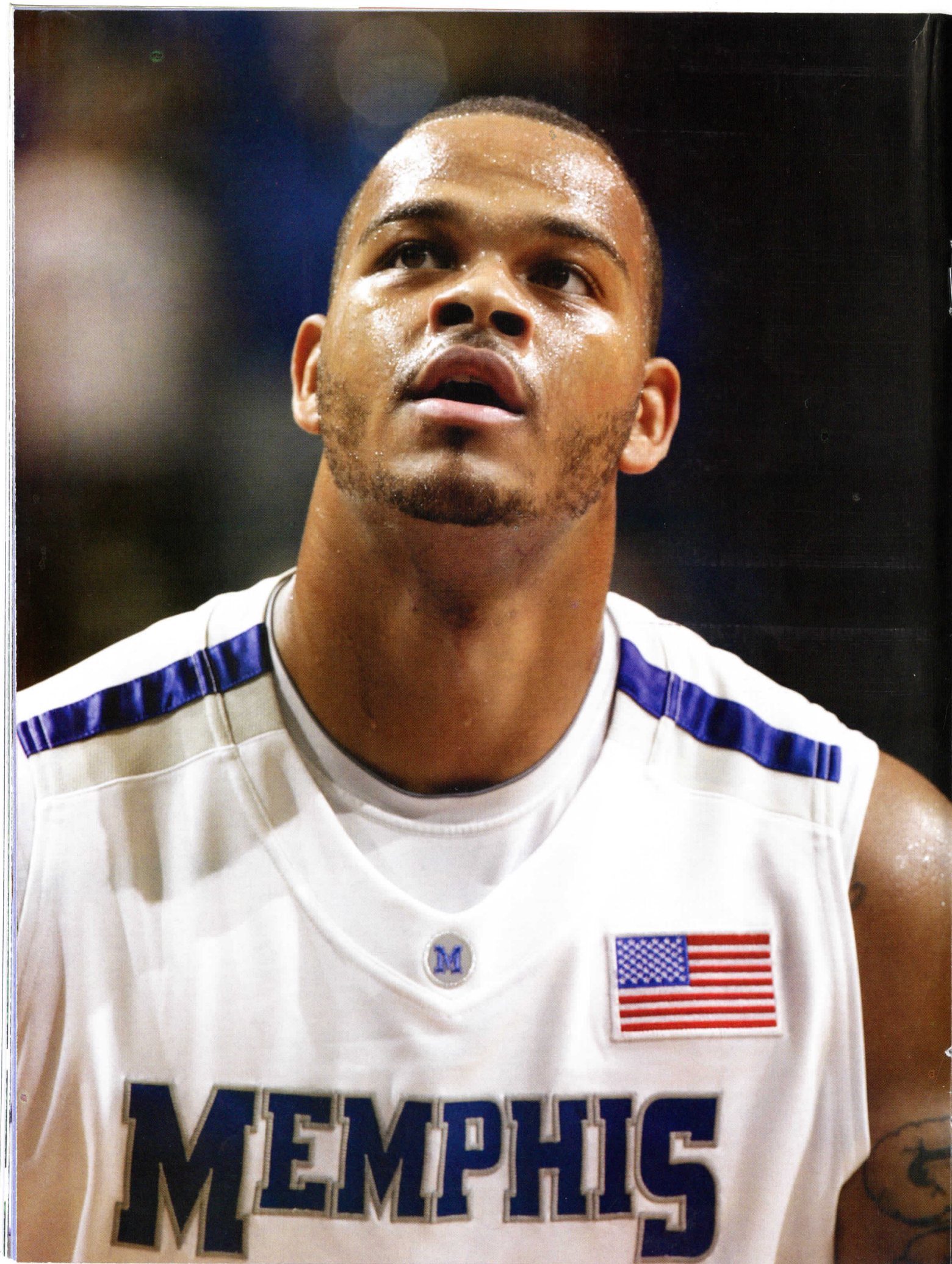
How can we compete for talent with the likes of Tennessee and Ole Miss when the SEC is able to provide multi-million dollar practice facilities for its' footballers. The weight room needs to be addressed ASAP, but that is just the beginning.



More Recruiters, Better Recruiters

Since our geographic rivals have better equipment than us, our salespeople need to be twice as good to sell a program which is clearly inferior. Recently graduated players are good recruiters. Use as many as you can get.





PIN

Losing Weight, Finding His Game

by JAN MICHAEL HARTELUST photos by JOE MURPHY



In the east end of the gym inside the Larry O. Finch Center hangs a gigantic banner that covers nearly the entire wall. Though its size may demand attention, the message sprawled across it is what Coach John Calipari and the rest of his staff hopes the players will notice. The banner reads: "On my honor I pledge to ache. I will keep my body powerful, my desire intense, and my will unflinching. I will create, by example, a new definition of passion and will continue to cherish my belief that every inspired drop of sweat is an investment in perfection." Pierre Henderson-Niles seems to be taking those words to heart.

At 6-8 and 300 pounds, Henderson-Niles certainly has the powerful body part down. But those who have been following his journey as a Tiger know that Henderson-Niles has had anything but an easy voyage to get down to 300 pounds. That's right – down to 300 pounds. When he graduated from high school, Henderson-Niles was listed at 6-7, 250 pounds. But his weight ballooned to nearly 350 pounds after sustaining a knee injury as a freshman at the U of M. Heading into this season, Henderson-Niles' junior year, Coach Calipari has been letting everyone

know that his big man from Ridgeway High School lost 50 pounds and plans to lose another 20. Now that those 50 pounds are gone, Henderson-Niles' minutes are up.

"I was getting tired after three minutes, now it's five or more," Henderson-Niles says.

His size is not the only change this season for the talented big man from Ridgeway High School. His name has changed as well. He has been known as Pierre Niles during his first two years

as a Tiger, but this year he decided to change that. His father's last name is Henderson and his mother's is Niles.

"I was actually just going to go by Henderson," he says. "But when the first game came, I saw that they had both names on there and I just said 'OK' and went with it. It doesn't really matter to me, though. I just play for the name on the front of my jersey, not the back."

His name change has nothing to do with the amount of minutes Henderson-Niles is averaging this season, however. His minutes have gone up consid-

every misfire like an industrial vacuum cleaner. But Henderson-Niles is his own player. He is extremely athletic for a man of such imposing stature and his feet are as quick as some guards. His desire to win, however, is no different than Dorsey's.

"What Joey was doing, I don't think anybody can do," Henderson-Niles says. "I don't feel pressured to be like him. I'm just going to be me. I'm going to go out there and do what I do to help my team win."

That desire to win started well before Henderson-Niles became a Tiger. He helped lead Ridgeway High School to a state championship, earning MVP honors along the way. People in Memphis love to see one of their own suiting up for their beloved Tigers and play with that same kind of passion and dedication and Henderson-Niles knows it.

"I love playing in front of my friends and family," he says. "It's great that they can come see me play. We can win one [a championship] this year. It would be a big surprise, but it would be big for this city."

Henderson-Niles knows this new-look Tigers team has what it takes to win a championship, but he also understands – as do most Tiger fans – that it will be far from easy. While it's true there are a number of talented players who have returned to help lead this team – Antonio Anderson and Robert Dozier could become the winningest players in college basketball history this season, and Willie Kemp, Doneal Mack, Jeff Robinson, Shawn Taggart, Chance McGrady and of course Henderson-Niles all return from the squad that fell just short of the national championship last season – there are a number of new faces who are trying to fill some major holes in this year's Tiger lineup. Gone are number one overall NBA draft pick Derrick Rose, clutch scorer Chris Douglas-Roberts and the aforementioned defensive enforcer Joey Dorsey. Enter Wesley Witherspoon, C.J. Henry, Matt Simpkins, Robert Sallie, the highly touted Tyreke Evans and Angel Garcia, who as of print had not been cleared to play by the NCAA.



"My freshman year I had to sit a lot because of my knee. I wasn't playing in the games, but I watched a lot of practice and that helped. Watching practice now – a lot of players ain't used to the way we play," Henderson-Niles says.

What he says makes sense given that there have been some reports that some of the freshman are having a hard time adjusting to the sometimes rigorous practices and the difference between Coach Cal the recruiter and Coach Cal the coach.

"It's going to be hard on them [the new players]," Henderson-Niles says. "Coach has got to put those guys in who know the system and who can get it done."

In the end, however, Henderson-Niles has faith in all of his teammates that this could be another special year for the Tiger program.

"We've got the talent to win like last year, but right now we've got a lot of work to do," Henderson-Niles says. "We're not ready for a championship, but as the season goes on, we'll get better."

Getting better is exactly the message being conveyed by that banner in the Finch Center. In regards to Pierre Henderson-Niles, consider that message received. **M**

**[[We can win one
this year. It would be a big
surprise, but it would be
big for this city.]]**

erably from 5.5 his first two seasons to 14 this season. Part of that bump up in minutes is due to his significant weight loss, but his game is also improving.

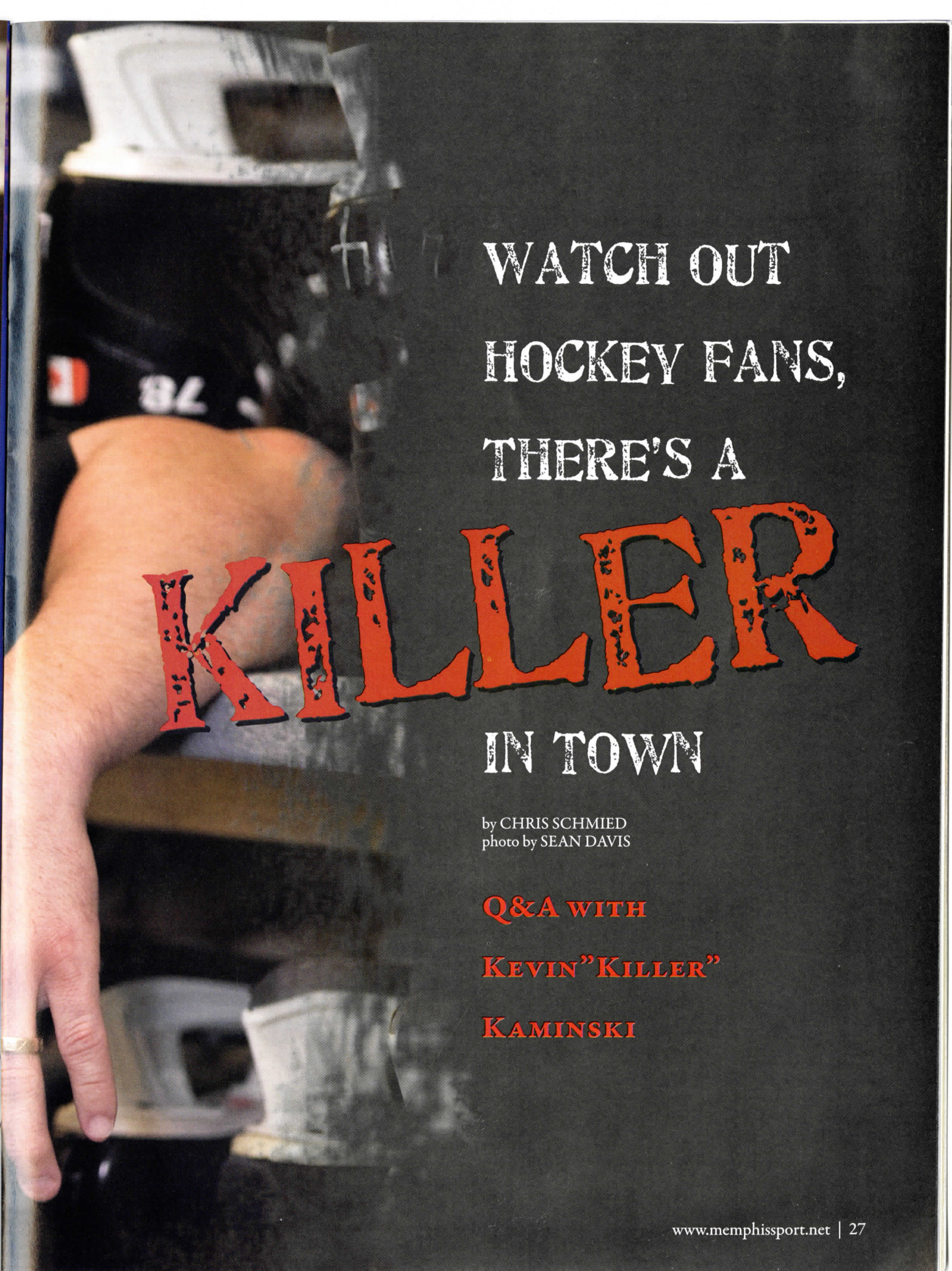
"It's been tough (losing the weight), but I'm quicker, faster, can jump higher – my whole game's just improved," Henderson-Niles says.

Henderson-Niles is not too concerned with playing time, however, as he knows how players earn time on this team.

"If Tag [Shawn Taggart] is having a good game, he's going to go," he says. "The minutes are going to come, you've just got to perform."

The guy who was getting the majority of the minutes the last few seasons was Joey Dorsey. Many avid Tiger fans had dreams of Henderson-Niles being the next Dorsey – a dominant defensive big man who could intimidate anyone who dared enter his lane, swatting away would-be lay-ups and sucking in





WATCH OUT
HOCKEY FANS,
THERE'S A

KILLER

IN TOWN

by CHRIS SCHMIED
photo by SEAN DAVIS

Q&A WITH

KEVIN "KILLER"

KAMINSKI

So how'd you earn the nickname Killer?

That was the way I played. I loved to hit everything that moved, including goalies when they came out to play the puck. I started a few brawls back then.

I guess it was probably back in midget hockey. A goalie came out to play the puck and I was always told to take the body. So I did. KO'd him.

How do you like the Mid-South so far?

Obviously in this business you move about quite a bit. Since 2000, it's been every 2 years we've moved. Cincinnati to Long Beach to St. Louis to Youngstown and now here. We still have lots of boxes to unpack. The weather has been absolutely phenomenal.

How has the reception from the fans been?

When we first came down for the press conference, I thought it went very well. The people down here in the South are very, very nice. I'm a small town Saskatchewan boy, who didn't come from very much. I know my roots. I know where my values come from. I never forget about my hometown and I think mom and dad brought me up, teaching me the values of life and that it's special. To always help out. And that's what I do. I've done so many charities and benefits. And we plan on getting really involved with the community. Working with the front office and the booster club. Before every game I'll be out by the booster club table. I'll be talking with fans and getting to know them and they can get to know me a little bit.

I know in Youngstown you were worried about competing with football for local fans. Are you as concerned here, competing with the Grizzlies and Tigers?

Obviously in Ohio you have Friday night football, and Ohio State and Youngstown State are right there. I think it's the same all across the states everywhere, except maybe up on the East Coast. Anywhere down here it's basically football and baseball and those are the big sports we have to compete with. It's a challenge, but we look forward to putting a very good product on the ice. I want my team to be relentless, greasy and gritty. I think we have the right chemistry to play any brand of hockey. We've got the guys who can set up plays, who can score. We have the grease and grit. And then we have the toughness as well. I think our defensive core is going to be one of the best in the league. All seven that I'm bringing in to camp are great skaters that can move the puck. I think our defensive core is going to be exceptional this year.

What do you think of the three local boys you 'inherited' (Landmesser, Dumont and Stoddard)?

I think they're three great guys. Coaching against them for two years, I can tell you that Landmesser is one of the premiere defensemen in the league. He's a point a game guy. He leads by example.

Louis Dumont has been around the game. He's a very smart player. I can tell he's gonna be good with the young kids. Teaching and developing them.

Stoddard is the grit and grease I was talking about. I'm excited about it. When I look at Darrell's resume in juniors, he put up unbelievable numbers. I think his first year here he had 18 goals. I told him "you've got to come into camp in the best shape you've been in. And you've got to come in with confidence and play the game as well." I said "You're my type of player and you're going to get rewarded for that. You're going to get more ice time. I think you can score between 15 and 20 goals, and add another 15, 20 assists. I think that's a helluva year."

Is he the kind of player that reminds you of you as a player? Are you looking for players that remind you of you?

Oh for sure! I mean, the game has changed, you can't just have that one dimension now where you just fight. You've got to be able to skate, you've got to be able to log minutes. I fought every tough guy there was, as you can probably tell by looking at my face. 651 stitches, 2 plates and 12 screws holding my face together. I guess if they are that crazy and intense, that's even better. But I want the guys to bring what got them here and what's been successful for them. I don't expect Jeff Nelson to go out and fight everyone. He's probably a hundred point guy in this thing. I mean that's what you have Stoddard, Shmittty and Simmer for. If someone takes a cheap shot at Nelson or Dumont, they're there to police that.

I love my guys. We're in the minors and I want them to learn how to compete and get better, day in and day out. Not only as hockey players, but as people. I feel like I left it on the ice every night. I sacrificed my body. And it's not about hating to lose, it's about learning to win.

What do you miss most about being a player?

I miss the rivalry. I miss looking for the

KEVIN "KILLER" KAMINSKI

RAP SHEET

by BOB BAKKEN

Before becoming a coach in 2000, Kevin, a hard-nosed, gritty forward, earned the name "Killer" by not being afraid to dig hard in the corners and along the boards. He was also not afraid to tangle toe-to-toe with the opposition's top enforcers. In the 1990-91 season with the Fort Wayne Komets of the IHL, Kaminski accumulated 455 penalty minutes in 56 regular season games and 169 PIMs in 19 playoff tilts.

Kaminski began his NHL playing career as a third-round selection of the Minnesota North Stars in 1987, but played only one game with Minnesota before a trade sent him to the Quebec Nordiques in 1989. Kaminski played six games with Quebec and spent time with the Nordiques' AHL affiliates in Halifax and Fort Wayne before being sent to the Washington Capitals prior to the 1993-94 season. He played the rest of his NHL career with the Capitals, seeing time in all or parts of four seasons, finishing his NHL career with three goals and 13 points in 139 games played.

Kaminski probably made his biggest impact during his playing career as a member of the Portland Pirates of the AHL. In 113 career games with Portland, he scored 33 goals for 87 points and a franchise all-time high of 797 penalty minutes. Aided by Kaminski's four goals and nine points in the playoffs, the Pirates won the Calder Cup playoff title in 1994. Three years later in 1997, Kaminski won the Most Popular Player award voted on by Portland fans and in 2000 was named to the franchise's Hall of Fame.

KILLER'S CAREER AS A PLAYER:

WHL
1984-1989, Saskatoon Blades

AHL
1989-1993, Halifax Citadels
1993-1998, Portland Pirates
1999-2000, Providence Bruins

IHL
1990-1991, Ft. Wayne Comets
1998-1999, Las Vegas Thunder
1999-2000, Orlando Solar Bears

NHL
1998-1999, Minnesota North Stars
1989-1992, Quebec Nordiques
1993-1997, Washington Capitals

KILLER'S CAREER AS A COACH:

2000-2002
Cincinnati Mighty Ducks, Assistant Coach

2002-2004
Long Beach Ice Dogs, Head Coach
2004-2006
Missouri River Otters, Head Coach

2006-2008
Youngstown Steelhounds, Head Coach

2008-present
Mississippi RiverKings, Head Coach

big hit. I miss scoring a big goal. The big fights. I miss all of it. The guys in the locker room, coming to the rink. I mean, as a player mentally I was ready every game. Now as a coach, it sucks. There's so much preparation and so much work to do. I don't leave the office.

You're preparing for 20 guys. And so you gotta have your video, other's teams power play, penalty kill. You gotta make sure you're prepared and make sure that they're focused and prepared as much as possible to play in the foundation we're going to play in.

What was your favorite game? Or maybe one favorite moment that you like to look back on?

I got to play my very first pro game in the Montreal Forum. And obviously winning the Calder Cup with the Portland Pirates. I mean that's, whew.

We lost the Memorial Cup in overtime, that was Major Junior. We lost the Turner Cup in the IHL in 6 games. And finally, you played 11 years and you got one championship. When I do a little speech I always say "11 years pro, 651 stitches, 2 plates, 12 screws and one championship ring. Wouldn't change a thing.

How much of your player footage have your daughters seen? Any of your fight videos?

They've seen some of it. I was forced to retire in 200 when I was about 30 years old due to too many concussions.

How many concussions was that?

That's a good question. When you're fighting and you get dinged and you turn your head, that's a concussion. So who knows how many. I mean I didn't get knocked open. I took the puck to here (right temple) at 75 mph, dead on. That's when I got the two plates. And lost a little bit of vision.

And that's the same with my girls. The cheer and whatever they do. They know how to compete. They miss a tumbling pass, or they miss anything, they're

pissed. They don't want to be talked to. They just want to have their moment.

And what do they think when they see your videos or fight footage?

They kind of laugh a little bit and say, "Dad, you're crazy." I wish they could have seen me play more live, because they were just so little when I played.

When did you decide to coach?

I was told that I would make a good coach, by a lot of people. I was fortunate enough that when I retired in 200 I got to be an assistant coach under Mike Babcock. He is so detailed. He's very well spoken. He's a great motivational speaker. And he's very intense.

The details are important, when you're coaching. That's what I learned my first couple of years under Mike Babcock. He was relentless. It was nonstop. We'd be breaking down game tapes. He'd be on the phone looking for other players, or on calling other coaches asking about power play, penalty kill, breakouts. It was just never ending. He was always working.

As a player, I wasn't supposed to get drafted. I was too small, I couldn't skate good enough. I had that passion and work ethic and I proved everyone wrong. And that's my mentality now. I want to move up to the next level. To get to the AHL and then the NHL. One of my goals is to win the Stanley Cup. Obviously year the goal is to win the cup wherever you are. That's the way it should be. The way it always will be. That's the way I want to teach these kids how to compete. When to fight, when not to fight. Bottom line is to win every game you can. Sometimes that means you have to turn the other cheek and take a number. I know I can provide that.

Was Mike Babcock your biggest influence as a coach?

For sure. Some stems from my influence too from my mom and dad. The hard work. And Mike Babcock, he's a Saskatchewan boy, too. Times were tough. Winters there are -40, -60 with the windchill. And as kids if we weren't at the rink playing, we were out in the street playing road hockey. You come in your hands are frostbitten, your toes are frostbitten. That was just a way of life. Just like football and baseball down here, hockey is that there. It's all we knew how to do.


Which killer from the movies do you like more? Jason or Freddy?

Jason.

Chucky or Buffalo Bill?

Chucky.

Norman Michael Myers or Leatherface?

I know my face ain't leather! They use to call me "Paperface" cause I bled all the time. So I have to go with Michael Myers. 

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- Setting your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower this winter. Every degree below 68 degrees can save four percent on your heating bills.
- Caulking around windows and weatherstripping around doors to keep warm air in and cold air out.
- Replacing your heating air filters every 30-90 days.

save
ENERGY



A FRAYSER COWBOY

by ANDRE JOHNSON
photo courtesy
DALLAS COWBOYS

He grew up in Frayser, in the heart of Northeast Memphis, where his passion for playing pickup football games in neighborhood vacant lots were overshadowed often by gang violence, drugs, and crime. Exposed to an array of hardship in what is considered a poverty-stricken community, Ken Hamlin felt it was essential that he devise some sort of plan to help support his family.

To this end, the former Frayser High senior class vice-president and member of the National Honor Society eventually turned to the gridiron as his ultimate outlet.

For Hamlin, it's safe to say that football was a road worth taking, given the success and wealth he has garnered since entering the NFL ranks after a three-year, All-Southeastern Conference tenure at the University of Arkansas. Now in his sixth NFL season, the starting safety for the Dallas Cowboys, alongside former Texas All-American Roy Williams has been dubbed one of the league's hardest hitting tandems, according to numerous analysts and writers.

And despite playing for the underachieving Cowboys in a season filled with on-and-off-the-field distractions, Hamlin is making certain that the only thing he's guilty of in Big D is exemplifying pride and infatuation for arguably one of the highest-profile franchises in all of professional sports. Of course, you can't echo the same for several other big name personalities affiliated with what the sports universe has labeled America's Team.

Terrell Owens, it seems, can't refrain from mouthing off about teammates to reporters and throwing sideline temper tantrums. Adam "Pacman" Jones, despite being slapped with multiple suspensions by Commissioner Roger Goodell, refuses to stay away from nightclubs and having run-ins with the law. And longtime owner Jerry Jones, it appears, is still his usual meddlesome self, most notably publicly criticizing running Marion Barber's toe injury following the team's fourth-quarter meltdown at Pittsburgh in December. Hamlin, meanwhile, just happens to be associated with all of the recent negativity surrounding what has become a wishy-washy Cowboys bunch of late. However, he'd be the first to tell you he has nothing but gratitude for the organization and for all of those with ties to it.

"The organization does a great job of keeping the past and present on the map," Hamlin says. "You see [former players] walking through the locker room. It definitely puts a smile on your face. I never thought I'd be playing for the Cowboys."

One reason is that playing in Big D almost never happened, and it didn't have anything to do with him being raised in a rough neighborhood. Three years ago, while with the Seahawks, controversy surrounded

Hamlin when he was involved in an altercation with two other men outside a nightclub, several hours after the Seahawks had beaten the Houston Texans. According to a police report, Hamlin sustained a fractured skull, a small blood clot and bruising of the brain tissue.

Hamlin, of course, chooses not to comment on the brawl that fortunately wasn't life-threatening, but shortened his third professional season by ten games. Nevertheless, this one-time Pro Bowler realizes he can't afford to make similar ill-advised choices, especially in a league where the strict commish is committed to holding players accountable for off-the-field issues. Not only that, Hamlin admittedly would prefer to hang up his cleats as a member "America's Team," a team which solidified his future with a six-year, \$36 million contract last summer.

Not bad for the former high school baseball and track and field phenom, who chose football as his ultimate outlet.

Hamlin says it is imperative that pro athletes make it point to eat a good breakfast, particularly on game day, a routine he rarely passes up. Additionally, while he's a fixture in the Cowboys' weight room, he often switches up his daily running routines as an ideal way of balancing his mandatory conditioning schedule. While most NFL players spend their respective bye week booking flights, making television and radio appearances, or rehabbing, Hamlin is one of only few players who devote long hours to prepping for the next opponent.

"I lift (weights) each day and I fine tune certain things with my body," Hamlin says. "I also try to eat healthy food to help my body recover from soreness and bumps and bruises. Your body is your job, and you have to keep it operating at a high level."

Especially when your employer happens to be in the rugged NFC East and you makes up one half of the NFL's hardest hitting tandems. **M**

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Power Life Fitness

by EMILY JOYNER

WHERE EVERYONE KNOWS YOUR NAME



The New Year is upon us, which inevitably brings along resolutions and big ideas for the upcoming twelve months. A resolution we most often hear is, "This year, I'm going to get in shape!" We've all said it. If you haven't said it out loud, then you have at least thought it. Maybe 2009 could actually be that year for some of us.

Have you considered a new outlook on getting in shape? Power Life Fitness in East Memphis, which opened in February 2008, provides just that—a positive, smarter outlook on turning over a new leaf.

"We wanted to step back from the big mega-clubs and provide a safe, nurturing environment for people to get in shape."



"We wanted to step back from the big mega-clubs and provide a safe, nurturing environment for people to get in shape," explains club president, Steve Smith.

As more of a personal training studio, rather than a standing-room-only gym cramped with wall-to-wall equipment, Power Life Fitness has the desire and knowledge to create personalized fitness regimes and nutritional strategies for its members.

With Steve Smith and vice president Kelvin "New York" Brown leading the staff of personal trainers, every staff member is college educated, certified and licensed through a nationally recognized certification program. They are able to provide a level of expertise and tailor-made support that other gyms cannot always effectively provide.

Power Life Fitness provides a mature, adult-focused environment for young professionals, athletes and people of all ages ready to focus on their health. An array of classes for all levels of health, as well as affordable membership



package options, ensures that everyone can find a niche that works for them.

Recent renovations include improvements such as personal showers and dressing rooms, rubber sports floors throughout the gym, a free weight studio and equipment upgrades.

Perhaps the most appealing part of Power Life Fitness is their sincere commitment to remain an exclusive club with one-on-one training and support. "We don't want to oversell our resources," Smith says.

Their knowledge of everything from general fitness, sports-specific training, overall health and nutrition allows Power Life Fitness to provide a high level of attention that has the capacity to make 2009 your healthiest year yet! **ML**

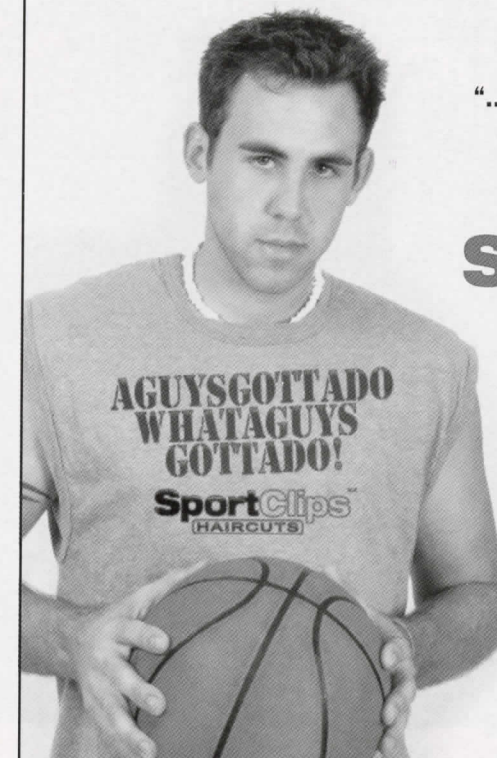
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"My girlfriend said if I leave once more to play basketball with the guys - she's leaving me..."

"...God, I'm going to miss her."

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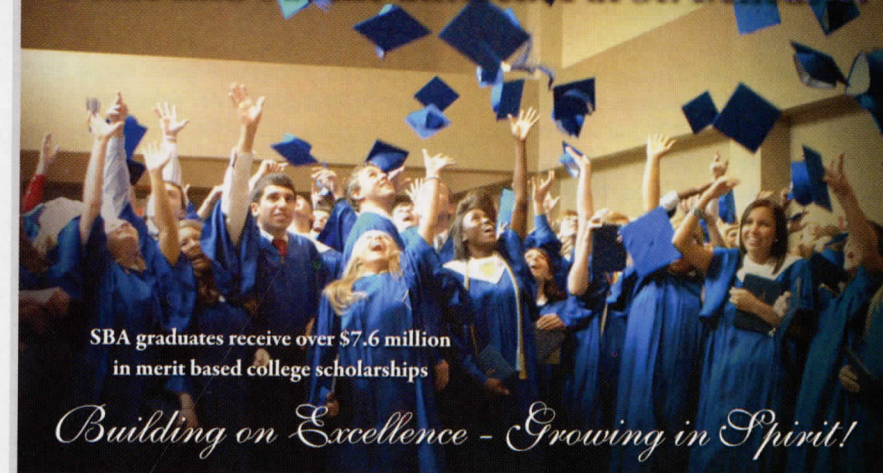
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GUYS WIN!

"If we are afraid to be different in the world, how are we going to be able to make a difference in the world?"

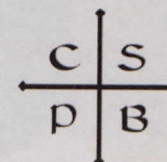
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FOODFORUM

Where sports collides with beer and food.

Bardog Tavern

by ROBERT BIGGS

What makes a great sports bar? That's easy—TVs, beer, home team support, service and great food. How many sports bars get it right? Not as many as we would like. In the quest for the perfect Memphis sports bar, I visit one of the most recent additions to the downtown landscape, Bardog Tavern.

SERVICE

FoodForum Mantra: A great sports bar must have great service. You shouldn't have to take your eyes off the TV to have to ask for another beer.

The service at Bardog was immaculate. The bar was absolutely slammed, yet my beer mug was never empty. Employees who were not my server were asking if I wanted another beer.

ATMOSPHERE

FoodForum Mantra: There should be so many TVs that even if your eyes do wander after a pretty girl in Tiger blue, her boyfriend should not be able to tell if you are looking at her or the TV right behind her.

When I went into Bardog, my initial reaction was, "This is not a sports bar." They had only one TV and nothing to do with sports on the walls. I talked to the owner, and he told me that they had plans of adding three TVs. I was about to leave, but the only TV was on the Bama game. I was hooked. I watched the rest of the game and had an incredible time doing so. It may not have been a sports bar exactly, but I had an absolute blast watching the game, and I was cheering against Bama.

HOMETOWN SUPPORT

FoodForum Mantra: A great sports bar should represent the hometown teams. All local games should be shown on the bar TVs with blaring volume.

The only real problem I have with Bardog is the blatant omissions of almost everything Memphis related. If you could move the bar into any other city, you wouldn't have to change any of the wall décor.

FOOD

FoodForum Mantra: A great sports bar should have great food. Not necessarily diver scallops in a lemon grass reduction, but at least something deep-fried and covered with sauce.

If you are from Memphis and have ever been drinking past 1 a.m., you inherently know that there is no greater food than a Krystal's slider, or so I thought. Bardog offers their own version of the slider burger. It is the exact same as Krystal's, if Krystal's actually knew what they were doing. The Bardog's slider patty is about as tall as it is wide. I actually think that the only person who could physically eat a "sackful" of these sliders is old Fat Phil on the other side of the state or wherever he is now.

BEER SELECTION

FoodForum Mantra: A great sports bar must have a great beer selection. This includes game day specials, and the need to be able to order a Chi-may, if you are going to celebrate a game like November 9, 1996. (If you are not familiar with the game played on this date, then please pack up your hunting gear and move to East Tennessee.)

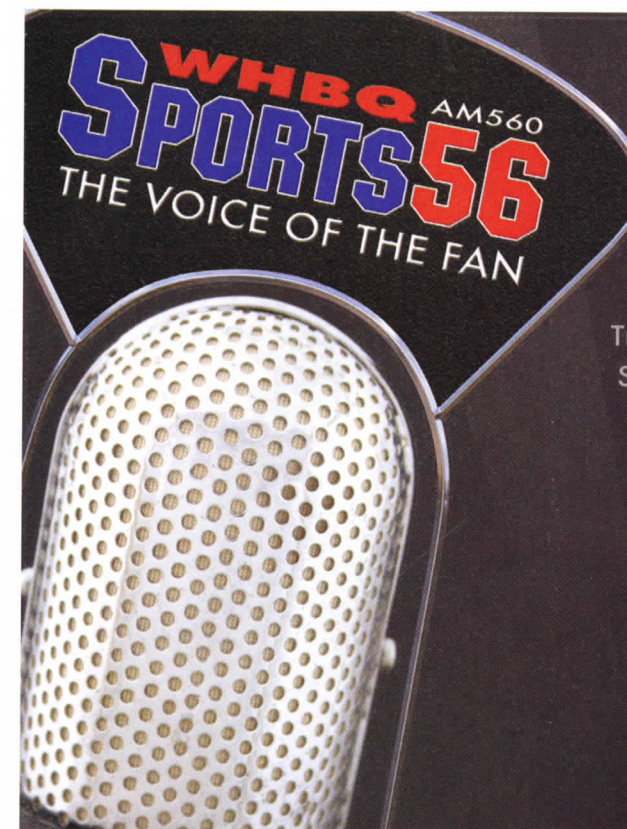
Bardog's beer selection might be one of the best in town. It's not often that I get to say this, but Bardog has a couple of beers that I have not had. If you are not willing to spend five dollars or more on a beer, Bardog even carries PBR for those looking to save a couple of dollars. It is served extremely cold, so it is still palatable.

OVERALL RATING



Bardog loses points on my standard sports bar scale for not exactly being a sports bar. But keep in mind that Bardog was never intended to be a great sports bar - just the embodiment of the perfect local bar. If you want to watch *the game of the night*, then it is a great place to go. Just don't plan on watching more than that game. Bardog Tavern earns 3.5 balls out of 5.

Memphis Sport's ace sports bar reviewer takes on one sports bar each issue. Send us your suggestions for the next FoodForum review to foodforum@memphisport.net.



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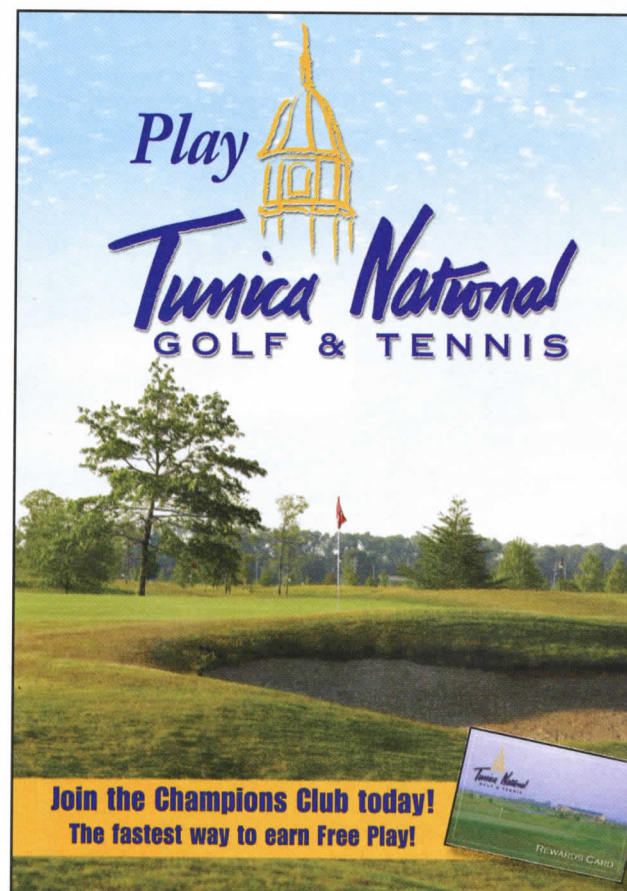
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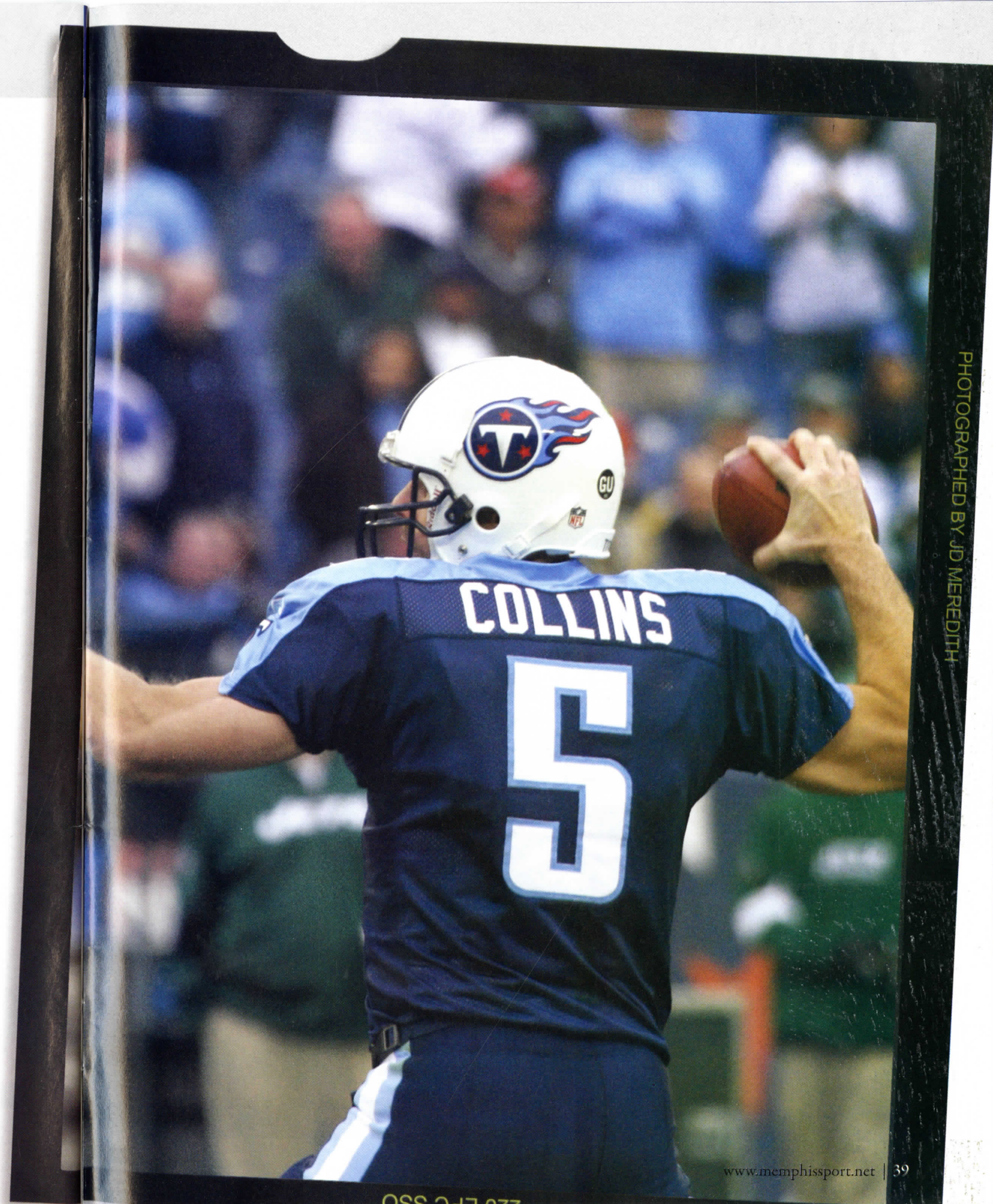
HOT SHOTS

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We just may print them in our next issue.

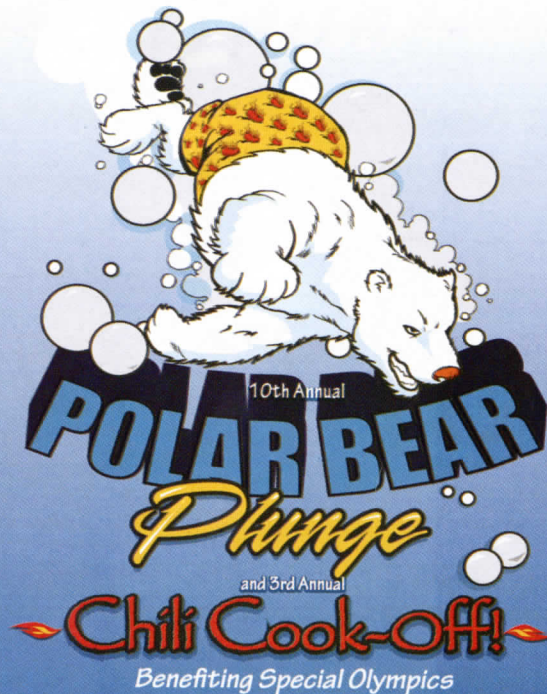


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TAILGATING

Sports was happening and you were there.

JACK EATON BOOK TOUR

featuring "Big Jack" signing his book of poetry,

"Jack Eaton: Great Scott, I rhyme a lot."

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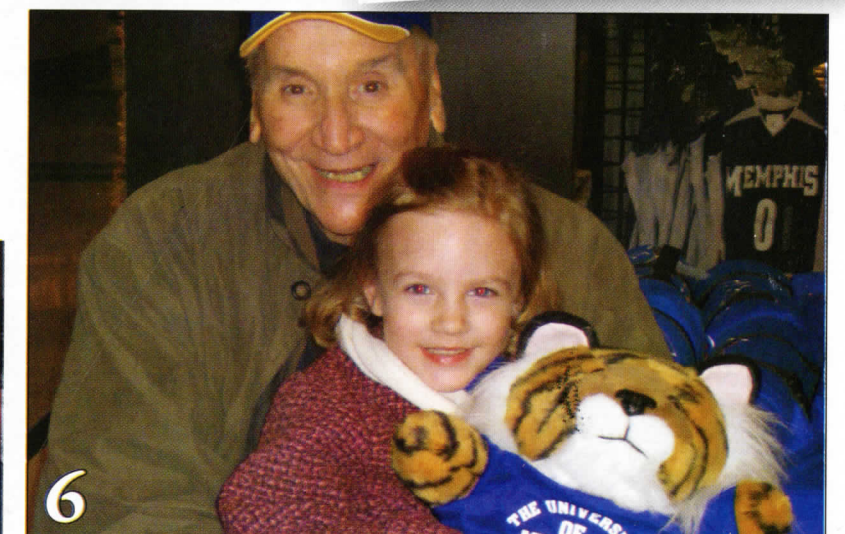
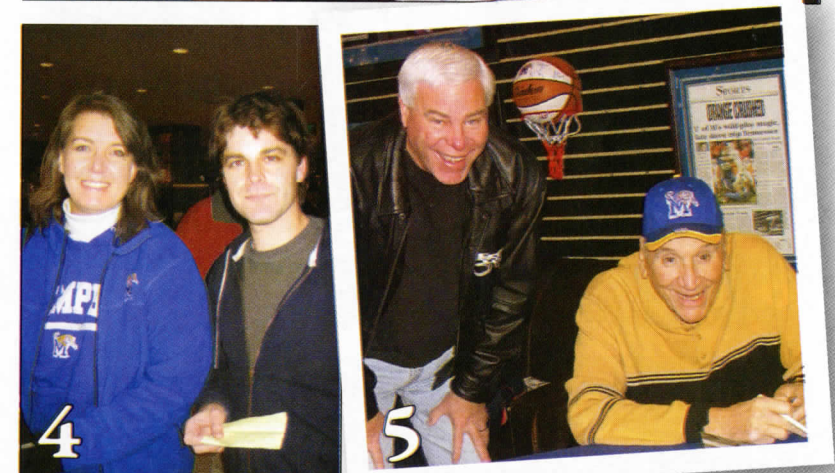
1. Lori and Mike Johnson
3. Jake Frazier
4. Melissa Peterson and Kevin Cerrito
6. Jack Eaton and Amelia
9. Bryan Darr
10. Dene and Don Randolph
11. Bill McKee
12. Jack Eaton and Cathy Wallace
13. Christina Cannan and Ray Cannon
14. Phil and Audrey Weaver
15. Danny Causie
17. Jack Eaton and Mike Bowen
18. Jordan English and Dave Hightower
20. Jack Eaton and Caroline McNeer

Tiger Gift Shop

2. Jack Eaton and Jeff Weinberger
5. Dave Brown and Jack Eaton
8. Tyler Ricossa
16. Grant Stevenson, Richard & Nancy Mattox
19. Kenna Bullard
21. Jack Eaton, Tim Duncan and Tyson Duncan
22. Martin Fletcher

Women's Exchange

7. Norma Laster, Rubye Thompson, and Sadie Krauch

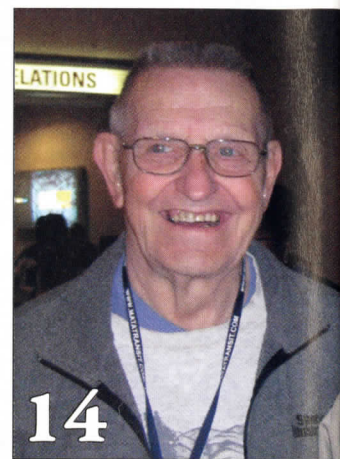


TAILGATING

Sports was happening and you were there.



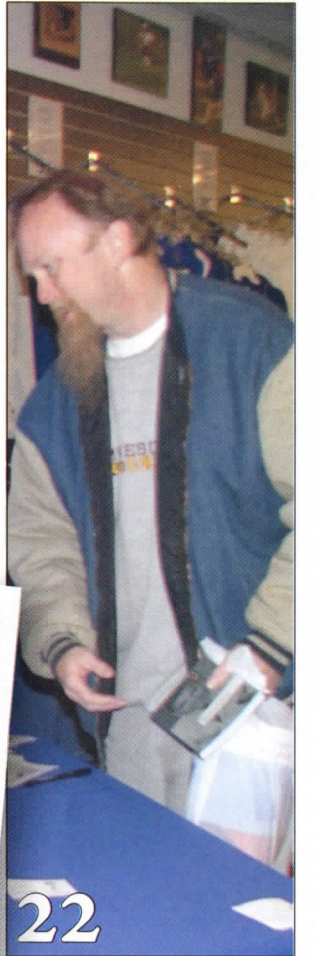
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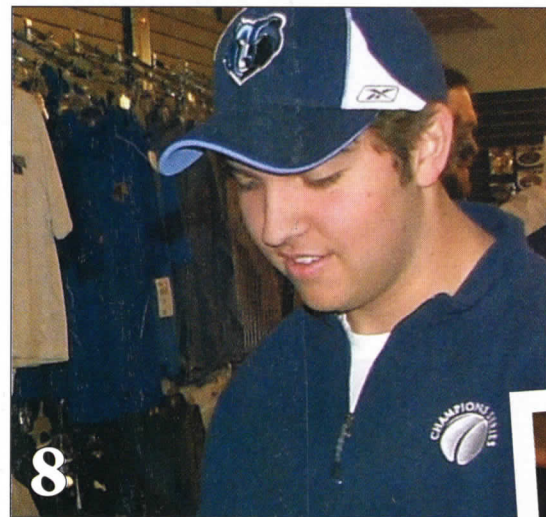
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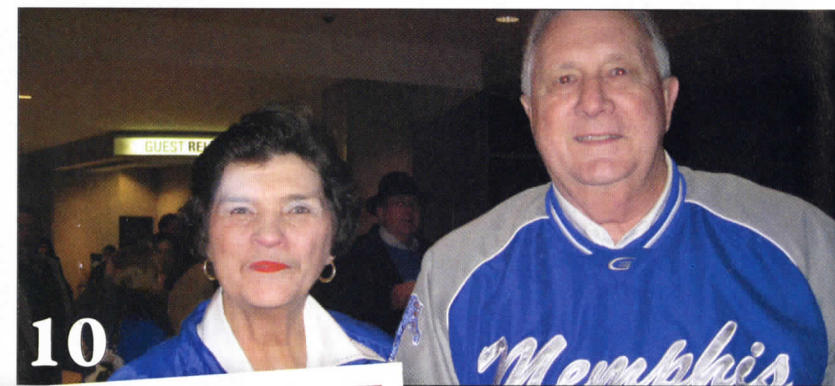
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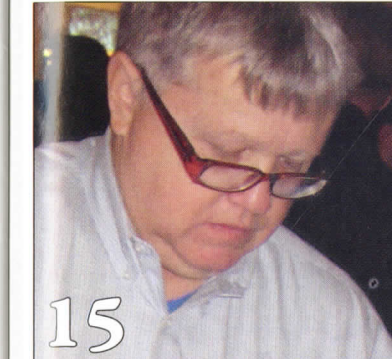
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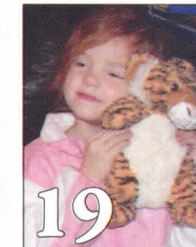
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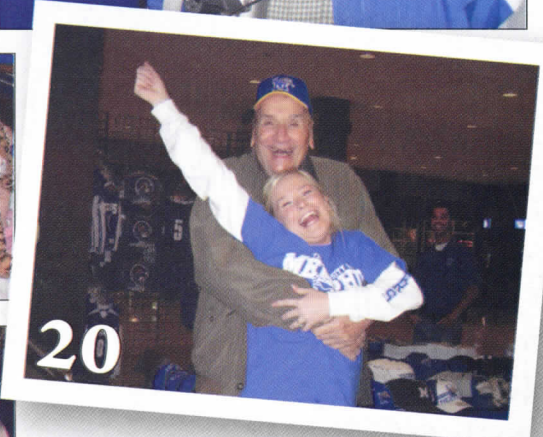
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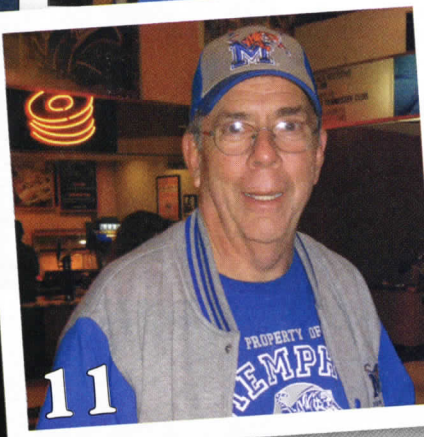
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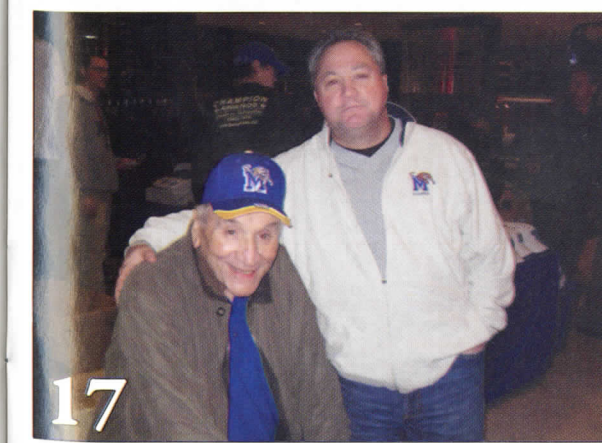
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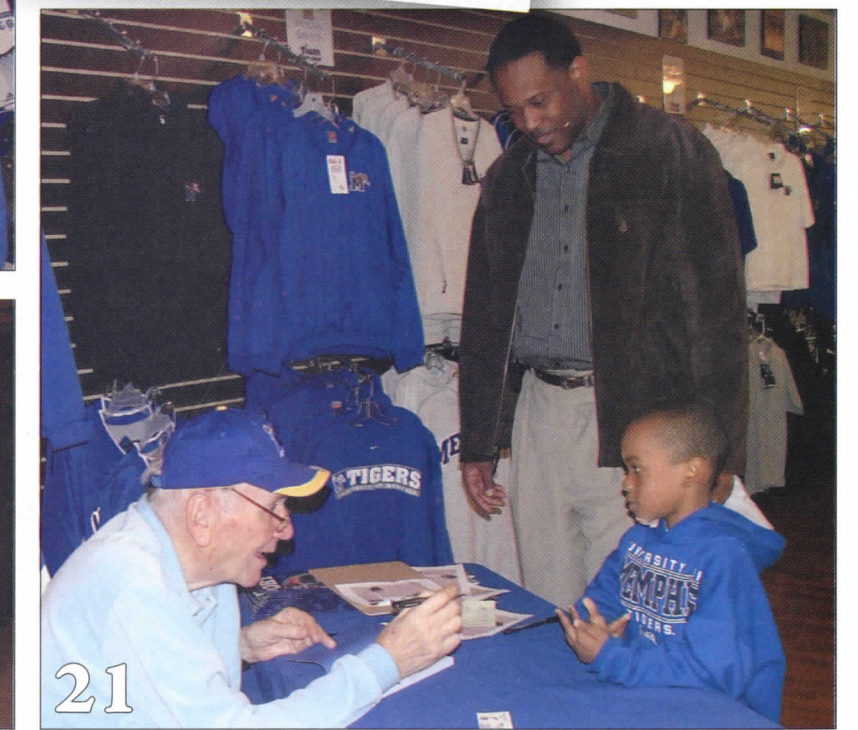
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This and That

by JACK EATON

When the Liberty Bowl opened in 1965, the player benches along the sidelines were painted orange. Not for long.

Keith Lee's record against Louisville was 6 and 5. My record vs. the Cardinals was 19 and 30. At Freedom Hall, it was 6 wins and 19 losses.

Bill Speros' American Legion baseball team would, from time to time, score two runs on a suicide squeeze bunt. The first time I saw it was during a broadcast in Jackson, TN. I went wild. "Great Scott," I said, "they scored a runner from second base on a squeeze." A guy who followed Legion ball said, "Jack they do that all the time." Amazing.

Billy Fletcher in his senior year as the quarterback for South Side carried the ball 91 times and scored 19 TD's.

Many people remember what apparently is my most memorable remark during a basketball broadcast. We (the Tigers) were playing Cuba at the Coliseum. Cuba is, of course, a communist country and it seemed natural to me to call them commies. So I said, "Here come the Commies." I took a lot of flack from people who thought I was insulting our guests. My reply, "Hey, these guys are proud to be communists. It would be like them saying, 'Here come the capitalists,' when we had the ball."

Back in 1963 (I think that's the year) Memphis State was offered a spot in the Sun Bowl. The powers that be thought they could get a better deal so they turned it down. Bad move. No other offers were forthcoming, and the Tigers

spent New Years day at home in front of the TV. The only blemish on the Tigers record was a 0-0 tie with Ole Miss.

My proudest athletic achievement was beating West Virginia University three years in a row. Washington and Jefferson was not supposed to be in the Mountaineers league. Ha. When I was a freshman at W&J, WVU came to our place and won 90-40. I only got to play the last two or three minutes. And that was enough.

Penn State's all time leading basketball

Once during a game against Mississippi State, the Bulldogs threw a pass. Memphis State's cornerback and free safety collided as they went for the interception. The official threw his flag and called the Tigers for pass interference. I kid you not.

scorer is Jesse Arnette. He graduated in 1955. No typo—1955.

Once during a game against Mississippi State, the Bulldogs threw a pass. Memphis State's cornerback and free safety collided as they went for the interception. The official threw his flag and called the Tigers for pass interference. I kid you not.

The Tigers first win over an SEC team was in 1962 against Mississippi State. Lance Russell did the play by play on WHBQ 56.


Recently, I ran into a former guard for the Central High basketball team of the early 60's. He wanted to know if I remembered him. I asked his name, "Cavett Conaway" was his reply. "Yes," I said, "and your number was 12." He was

amazed.

My high school basketball team made it to the state semi-finals. We were the first team from Warren, Pa. to make it that far and I don't think any team has done it since. I am very proud to have been on that team. Our record was 23 and 4.

Many years ago, New York state allowed postgraduate students to play on the football team. Jamestown, NY was a regular opponent of Warren's and they had guys with beards playing against our kids. Finally our AD said, "No more postgraduates." The next year we beat them 7-6. It was our first win in years.

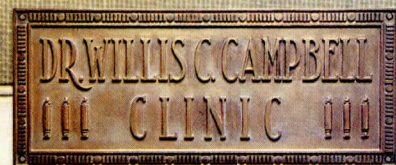
The only forfeited game I was connected with happened in the infamous Tully Gym at Florida State. The Seminole guards were bringing the ball up court when one of them got his feet discombulated and took two or three steps. No traveling was called which prompted Coach Dana Kirk to observe, "Hey, if you're not gonna call that, we might as well go home." The crooked refs said, "That's it. This game is over. Forfeit."

One of the most exciting football games I ever called was the Tigers 27-17 win over Ole Miss. As I recall, there were two kickoff returns for TD's and one punt return for the sudden six. I remember Tad Smith's son saying, "Blind hog finds acorn." Tad was the long time Ole Miss AD and the Rebels Coliseum is named in his honor. 

Big Jack's new book, "Jack Eaton: Great Scott, I Rhyme A Lot", is still available for purchase in both autographed and non-autographed versions at memphisport.net.

— To say —

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Not that long ago, a man looking somewhat ragged and having what appeared to be his family in tow, walked through the doors of Campbell Clinic and made his way directly to the nurse's station. Raising

his heavily bandaged hand high in the air, he declared in a thick South American accent that he had just arrived in Memphis that morning after flying 3,000 miles and would like to see Dr. Campbell immediately.

Having been deceased nearly 30 years, Dr. Campbell was unfortunately not available. But the nurse assured him that the physicians who were in the office that day were more than qualified to treat him.

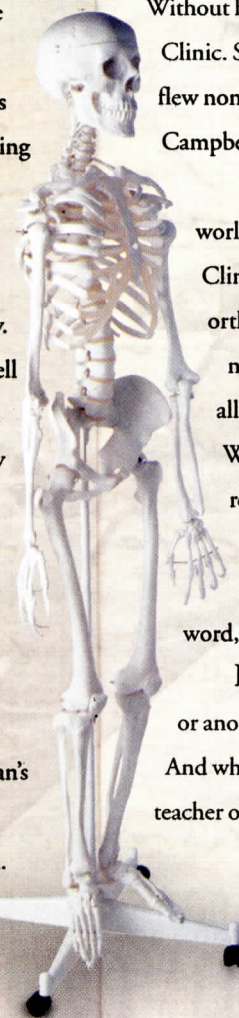
When asked about his insurance, the man laughed incredulously. When asked about his prior medical history, the man gave the nurse a phone number of an office in Peru.

A little background check seemed to be in order.

It turned out that the phone number was for the man's personal physician. And the man turned out to be the largest exporter of bananas in the entire world.



Frustrated with the fact that his injured hand was not healing properly, the Peruvian Banana King had



asked his doctor where the foremost orthopaedic specialists in the world could be found. Without hesitation, the doctor recommended Campbell Clinic. So the man immediately boarded his private jet, flew non-stop to Memphis, and proceeded directly to Campbell Clinic.

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It follows then that all orthopaedists in one way or another learn their craft from Campbell Clinic. And whom would you rather have as your doctor, the teacher or the pupil?

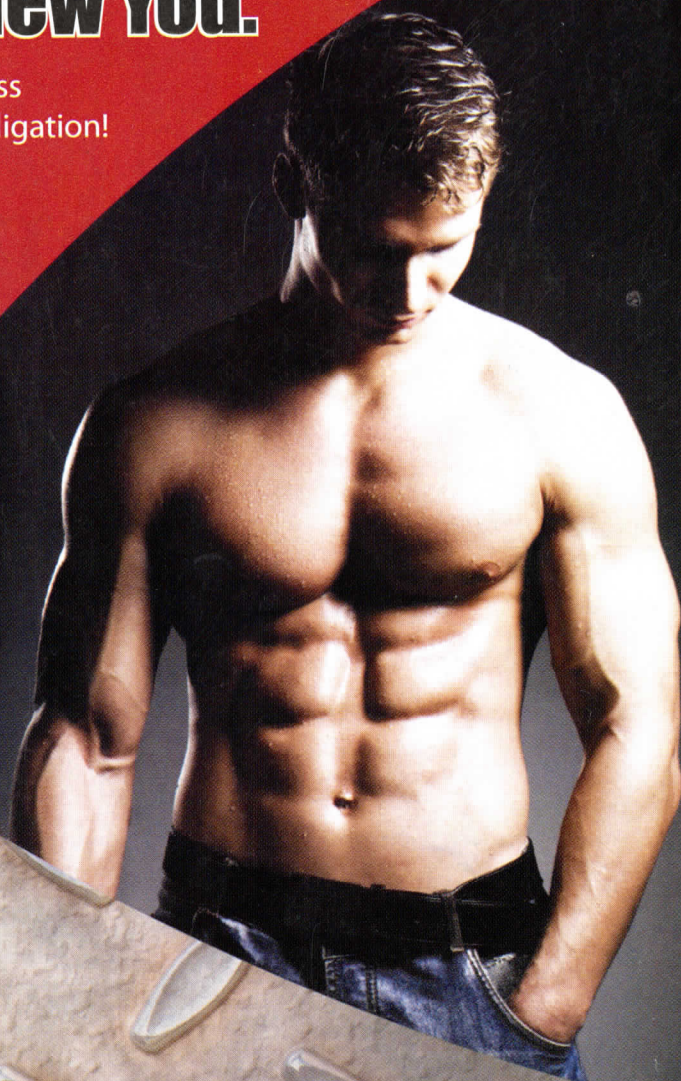
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